

Hafa Adai!

Consultants: CUC operating \$22.6M in the red for FY '17. **PAGE 2**
Huang Shun big winner in LibDay raffle. **PAGE 3**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 136

www.saipantribune.com

MONDAY JULY 11, 2016

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KILILI TO US CONGRESS:

'Small communities have write to decide on guns'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) says small communities like the CNMI should have the right to decide for themselves on how they regulate guns.



Sablan

Noting last week's shootings in Baton Rouge, Minnesota, and Dallas that shook the hearts and core of the American people with regards to race and gun violence, Sablan in his Saturday newsletter shared a statement to House Speaker Paul Ryan on the issue of "Gun and the Marianas."

Sablan said he wanted to acknowledge the work of local officials and "point Congress in

the direction of the same kind of reasonable solutions that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is putting in place to make sure that guns do not become a threat to our safety."

He said the CNMI Legislature and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres have instituted sensible limits on gun ownership that reflect the values and concerns of our community.

See GUNS on Page 4

House set to revise concurrent resolution with new budget figures

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives is set to revise this week its concurrent resolution with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' earlier submitted budget, following the submission of revised budget figures marking \$9.2 million more for government appropriations for fiscal year 2017.

In a combined total, projected budgetary increase stands at \$24.2 million from last fiscal year.

During a House session last week, House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) said

See HOUSE on Page 4

Rita Sablan is '16 Peter Brice Award recipient

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

CNMI Public School System Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan was the 2016 recipient of the Peter Brice Award given in last Thursday night's banquet, the closing of the 40th Annual Pacific Circle Consortium at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa-Saipan.

The Peter Brice Award is given to the top educator in the Pacific region in honor of New Zealand's late Minister of Education, who is best remembered for his "wisdom, humanity, and lifelong commitment to educational ideals."

Sablan, in her appreciation speech, said that being nominated and selected is an honor for her, adding that the award belongs to everyone who attended PCC's five-day gathering of

See RITA on Page 4



Public School System Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, second left, shows off her Peter Brice Award, while Northern Marianas College acting president David J. Attao, left, a Pacific Circle Consortium executive committee member, and PSS associate commissioner for instructional services Jackie Quitugua, right, look on.

JON PEREZ

See more photos on Page 14 and 15

INSIDE



NATION

The gunman who killed five police officers at a protest march had practiced military-style drills in his yard.

PAGE 16



HEALTH & FITNESS

Kevin Levit works out in a Costa Mesa gym without any mirrors. It's a design feature that surprisingly allows him to see more clearly that he's becoming stronger and slimmer.

PAGE 18



LIFE & STYLE

The International House of Pancakes will soon start serving its all-day breakfast on Saipan.

PAGE 19



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Local

Consultants: CUC operating \$22.6M in the red for FY '17

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is projected to operate more than \$22 million in the red for the next fiscal year, CUC consultants from economists.com said during a board meeting on CUC's proposed fiscal year 2017 budget Thursday.

CUC projects net operation losses at \$22,668,109 fiscal year 2017.

Economist.com managing directors Dan Jackson and Robert Young spoke to the board on the net operating losses and possible strategies to address these.

Jackson said the proposed fiscal year 2017 budget would reinforce the "fact" of financial challenges CUC has but also an opportunity for CUC to improve its finances.

Under power projections, net revenue projections are at \$27,130,905, with an operations budget is \$26,049,442, amounting to an operating income of \$1,081,463.

Under water projections, net revenue is projected at \$12,681,088. Its operations budget is at \$20,267,489, and an operating income loss of \$7,786,401.

Under wastewater projections, net revenue is projected at \$3,882,422. Its operations budget is at \$6,160,593. Its

operating income loss is \$2,278,172.

In total, net revenue projections are at \$43,694,415, with an operations budget of \$52,477,524, amounting to an operating income loss of \$8,783,109.

Total debt service and capital improvement outlays—including wharfage fees to the ports authority, old debt, construction, typhoon restoration, and vehicles—amounts to a total of \$13,885,000.

Some \$9.3 million of this falls under power, \$3.77 million under water, and \$775,739 under wastewater, giving a deficiency in power amount to \$8.24 million, in water at \$11.3 million, and in wastewater, at \$3.05 million.

On the glaring water losses, Jackson estimated that for the 10 million CUC produces it is only "selling" about 3-4 million gallons a day.

CUC has reported 65 to 67 percent unaccounted for water from leaks, poor meters, or theft.

"That is an ugly figure," said board director Ignacio Perez.

"Water is the real issue," said board chair Adelina Roberto, when sought

for comment after the meeting.

Jackson said the non-revenue water is similar problem for many Pacific utilities, noting terrain and storms that puts stress on distribution.

The consultants also proposed "Long-Term Financial Plan Principal Elements," touting plans for new revenue growth, expense reduction, including limiting non-revenue water; additional grant funding, and revenue enhancement inclusive of "developer fees," rate adjustments or increases, as options for the utility.

According to Young, the projections include the reopening of the Palms Resort, a megawatt of load or 5,000 kwh per year. He said they are also assuming to add three new customers a month, noting the opening of businesses like Bubba Gump, or IHOP, adjacent to new development.

"There's gonna be a lot of new commercial activity," he said. "You will see a gradual increase in customers" and toward the end of the projected budget, he said the board would start to "see the effect

of the [Best Sunshine International, Ltd.] casino.

"That is a tremendous increase in electric sales. Maybe 40 or 50 percent of total commercial load right now. You are going to see a big bump in that," he said, noting that this would not show until the following fiscal year when the Garapan casino is in full operations.

"2018 will be even better because you will see the full effect of Best Sunshine. Depending on construction schedules, there may be one or two hotels in that too," he said.

"...There are many steps, that CUC management has begun to take to address these issue," said Jackson. "Right now the 2017 budget shows a lot of challenges"

One of these steps is revenue growth, he said, noting BSI's additional load would result in millions of dollars of additional revenue. Second would be reducing expenses. Their biggest expensive is non-revenue water, he said. A third element would be to aggressively pursue grant writing.

And another avenue is development fees—where they could negotiate these fees with a interested investor or hotel—or standardize or schedule fees for how much the new development would cost CUC to ex-

pand its grid to take them on.

The consultants touted the development fees as one way to build a new power plant, which CUC anticipates the need for.

Young said the fees could have a set "floor. If a business does under 500 to 300 kws there would be no capacity fee, but if there went over this CUC could charge \$1,500 a kw to build new power plant, for example.

"Based on [Coastal Resources Management] filing, CUC will need a new power plant fairly soon," in three to four to five years, Young said.

Young proposed a policy of "growth pays for growth," citing other firms examples of not raising rates but scheduling fees for new developers.

"If they want to come here, let them pay a developer fee for the infrastructure needed for them to serve them," added Jackson.

On raising rates, Jackson said the raising rates is "not the only solution" but should be something considered to "leave all options" on the table.

The CUC board has repeatedly stated its desire not to raise rates on residential customers.

"We need all the money we can get. We've got a hole to close,"

See CONSULTANTS on Page 4

WIC is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week in August!

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Defendants in counterfeit checks in tax rebates scheme want venue trial in OR

Two of the three persons facing charges in federal court for engaging in a scheme to deposit counterfeit checks into their bank accounts over \$24,000 in tax rebates from the CNMI, have requested the U.S. District Court for the NMI to transfer the venue of this case to the District of Oregon.

Vancouver, Washington-based Brooke K. Phillips, through court-appointed counsel Mark B. Hanson, filed a motion for transfer of venue.

Oregon-based Larry Tagabuel, through court-appointed counsel David G. Banes, joined Phillips' motion to transfer venue.

It's not clear whether the third defendant, Kenatis M. Alafonso, also known as Nedy, who is residing in Vancouver, also wants to join in the motion to transfer the venue.

The indictment charged Phillips, Tagabuel, and Alafonso with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and 13 counts of wire fraud.

In Phillips' motion, Hanson asserted that the location of his client and the potential witnesses, the expense to the parties, and the relative accessibility of the place of trial all weigh heavily in favor of transfer.

Hanson said none of the factors weigh strongly against transfer.

"We are dealing with a defendant who is a resident of a district thousands of miles away, an alleged scheme taking place entirely in the mainland with only slight contacts to the CNMI via the mails or

the wires and particular hardship posed to a defendant forced to relocate to a faraway and unknown locale most likely leaving her young children behind," the lawyer said.

Phillips, who was arrested in Oregon, was determined to be indigent. She was subsequently released on conditions and remains under the supervision of pretrial services in the District of Oregon.

Hanson said Phillips has lived in Vancouver and around that area for virtually her entire life, and has a 3-year-old son and a 5-month old daughter.

The indictment was returned in the CNMI and the case was transferred from the District of Oregon, where the arrests of the defendants were made, to the District of the NMI.

A jury trial is currently set for July 26, 2016 in the District of the CNMI.

Hanson said based on the allegations and the discovery provided thus far, it seems that most potential witnesses are located in the mainland U.S.

Hanson said all of the overt acts alleged in the indictment take place in Washington or Oregon state.

Hanson said all of the automated teller machines allegedly utilized in the scheme are located in Portland, Oregon or Vancouver.

Thus, he said, witnesses necessary to authenticate documents and other evidence are located much closer to the District of Oregon than the District of the NMI.

For Tagabuel, Banes said

his location, the potential witnesses' location, the expense to the parties, and the relative accessibility of the place of trial all weigh heavily in favor of transfer.

According to the indictment, sometime in 2015, Tagabuel received a CNMI tax rebate check for the 2014 tax year. The CNMI tax rebate check was mailed from Saipan to Tagabuel in Oregon.

Using a high resolution scanner, an unnamed co-conspirator scanned a copy of the

See DEFENDANTS on Page 4

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Huang Shun big winner in LibDay raffle

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A late afternoon rain almost spoiled the last night of the month-long 71st Annual Liberation Day Festivities, but it stopped at around 6pm prompting a large crowd to

gather at the carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Almost all the people that attended last Saturday's final program was eagerly awaiting the raffle draw, where \$21,500 was at stake, and the announcement of the winner of the Liberation Day parade

float competition.

In the end, four employees—Chen Xiuyu, Macy Li, Ye Lifeng, and Zhou Hai-juen—of longtime CNMI investor Huang Shun Corp. owned the ticket that won the grand prize of \$10,000. They had a bigger chance of win-

ning the pot after their company bought \$2,500 worth of tickets.

The four moved closer to the Liberation Day stage once Skywalker Communications Group staff and Liberation Day volunteers began setting up the raffle bin. Members of the Royal Court alternated in drawing the tickets.

All drawn tickets—from sixth to top prize—were verified by Burger & Comer representative Annalé Torres before handing it to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, Skywalker Communications managing director Dr. Hu Bo, and Liberation Day non-profit group president Louis Rodgers to check it again.

The raffle bin was turned more than five times before Liberation Day Queen Christine D. Roque, who dug her hand deeper into the thousands of tickets before finally picking the winning stub. The ticket number was 81965 without a name written on it.

The four employees said they would give the money, once they claim it within the week at the Saipan Mayor's Office,

to the company. They were carrying a blue reusable bag filled with the other 2,449 tickets but right now would guard No. 81965 with their lives.

Ticket number 104749 with only Alepuyo written won the \$5,000 baby grand prize, while Pualani Palacios (96449) will be receiving \$3,000. A Jomari Montoya, who holds ticket number 98101, became \$2,000 richer for winning fourth prize.

F. Taimanao's 43430 ticket stub earned him \$1,000, while Kaylani Barcinas would need to present ticket stub number 19148 to claim the \$500 sixth prize. You don't need to be present to win.

Liberation Day parade committee chair Joe Palacios also announced the winners of the float competition with the Marianas Visitors Authority's entry being chosen by the five judges that carry this

year's theme of "Our Islands. Our Heritage." They won the \$4,000 top prize.

The Papago Familiar Lancheros came in second for \$3,000, the United Filipino Organization was third (\$2,000), and the Kkosch Refaluwasch Carolinian Affairs Office claiming the \$1,000 fourth prize.

The five judges were Zenaida Borja, Kiki Marciano, Manny Sablan, Alfred Saures, and John Uys.

Apatang thanked everyone who became part of this year's Liberation Day Festival. "I hope that all of you enjoyed the parade and all the activities of this year's festival. We are looking forward again for a bigger and better celebration next year with the help of Skywalker."

A more than 20-minute fireworks presentation lit up the night sky signaling the end of this year's festivities.



JON PEREZ

Skywalker Communications Group managing director Dr. Hu Bo, left, points as the four employees of Huang Shun Corp. hold the ceremonial check in last Saturday's raffle draw of the 2016 Liberation Day Festival. Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, second from left, Liberation Day non-profit group president Louis Rodgers, center, and Liberation Day Queen Christine Roque, right, were the others in the photo.

DEFENDANTS

From Page 3

CNMI tax rebate check and used the image to create counterfeit checks. Each counterfeit check was printed to resemble a legitimate CNMI tax check.

Each counterfeit check had

a legitimate routing number, which was assigned to the CNMI government. Various counterfeit checks were printed and made payable to the three defendants, and others.

To further the scheme, the defendants opened individual checking accounts at various banks, including U.S. Bank and Bank of America.

The defendants would deposit the counterfeit checks purporting to be tax rebate checks from the CNMI into their bank accounts. They would wait for the counterfeit checks to clear their bank account.

After the checks cleared their account and the funds were made available, each defendant would make large

cash withdrawals from various ATM and branch locations in and around Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver.

The defendants would share the profits obtained from their scheme with an unnamed co-conspirator in exchange for producing the fraudulent checks, according to the indictment. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

RITA

From Page 1

the region's top educators.

"[It is] to all of our educators from all sectors for the work that they've done for our children and to all stakeholders that help us along the way to avail quality public education to all children."

She said that as educators they must change and challenge the status quo so their work will be elevated, systematic, and for all.

"No one should fear change and that we must do all that we can to challenge the status quo if it is no longer efficient, no longer effective, and does nothing but sits there like it is nobody's business."

Sablan said the theme cho-

sen by Saipan Southern High School's recent graduating class taught her an important lesson. "The potential within us is greater than the obstacles around us" is the theme of the class composed of 124 students who graduated last month.

"I thought this was very powerful coming from the minds of young adolescents. But this is about who we are. We are about building and making change in the lives of children. We are about nurturing and guiding our children to have their greatest potential that they can ever be."

"If our young children can envision that their potential is greater than the challenges around them, then let us believe in them and what they have told us. Make those po-

tentials alive and greater," said Sablan, who added potential must be greater on the hindrances we face.

"The potential of being a great farmer should be greater than the obstacle of climate change; the potential to be a teacher should be greater than the obstacle of mandates; the potential to be a great engineer should be greater than the obstacle of our environment."

She said as educators, they should help all students realize their every potential. "Every student has a potential and we must nurture, guide, and build upon their potential to be greater than the impediments that is around them."

Legendary master navigator Pius Mau Pailug was also given a posthumous award for his contribution in keeping

alive and promotion of the traditional way of seafaring. His son, Sesario Sewralur, and the crew of the *Alingano Maisu* made a brief stop on Saipan last May on their way to the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

Brice was New Zealand's representative in the annual conference, which started in 1977 to establish cooperation among educational research and development institutions in the Pacific Region. When he died, Brice's wife and PCC developed an award to honor top educators.

This was the first time the CNMI hosted the annual conference. Japan had hosted the PCC six times with Hiroshima City, where the 2017 conference is set, holding it five times.

GUNS

From Page 1

In his July 6 statement available in the Congressional Record, Sablan said people in the Northern Marianas are concerned that guns "could become more common in our islands, more easily obtained, and a threat to public safety."

"We do have guns: for hunt-

ing, for target practice. Police officers carry weapons. And we have had tragedies: a child shot accidentally, a mass murder/suicide.

"But generally people feel safe. We do not worry that someone may get a gun and use it for the wrong reasons.

However, Sablan adds that this "feeling of safety" has changed recently.

He noted how recently the

federal court ruled that the Supreme Court's Heller decision applied in the CNMI; and people had a right to keep a handgun in their home.

"I understand that decision. The Second Amendment applies in our islands. We voted to make it apply, when we joined the United States 40 years ago. But the people I represent do not want to see handguns ev-

erywhere in our community. We certainly do not want the kind of assault rifles that terrorists use—most recently in Orlando," Sablan said.

"And our local legislature has taken action to limit handguns and ban assault rifles. I support those actions. I support the right of small communities like my own to decide for themselves about guns," he added.

HOUSE

From Page 1

there would not be any session until a budget bill is passed, after their session this Thursday. "We have to act on the budget so we can make sure the government can function," Demapan said.

House fiscal committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) also told *Saipan Tribune* the House concurrent resolution would be adopted in their Thursday session and they would take information from ongoing budget hearings to make adjustments to Torres' submission.

Torres' revised gross budgetary resources for FY 2017 stand at \$212.64 million, up from an earlier projection of \$203.42 million.

Net resources available for the government total \$137.02 million, after adjustments for debt, earmarked funds, and other legal obligations.

In his July 1 submission to

the Legislature, Torres marked business gross revenue tax projections at \$76.24 million, or 36 percent of total resources.

Income taxes are projected at \$42.1 million, or 20 percent.

Excise taxes are at \$44.45 million, or 21 percent.

"Other taxes" are projected at \$29.178 million, or 14 percent.

An additional \$13.983 million is projected under licenses and fees, \$2.425 million for charges for services, and \$4.27 million under other revenue.

Torres' earlier May submission identified \$74.8 million from business gross tax revenue, or 37 percent of total resources; \$41.8 million from incomes taxes, or 21 percent; \$35.585 million from excise taxes, or 17 percent; and \$29.178 million from other taxes, or 14 percent.

It was also broken down into \$14.14 million from licenses and fees, \$1.575 million from charges for services, and \$6.31 million from other revenue sources.

CONSULTANTS

From Page 2

said Young.

Before the conversation progressed further, board director Eric San Nicolas—referring to the "media" several times—urged they reconvene their meeting tomorrow (Friday) so he could more "sidebar" conversations with the acting chief financial officer on the budget or operations information "so we are not interpreted in any shape or form."

He said he didn't want to put out the information "in open session right now because I don't want to be misinterpreted again."

CFO signatories removed

Citing "accountability," the

CUC board also unanimously voted to remove the chief financial officer from one of the required signatories on approving its checks.

Now only the CUC executive director or the CUC board treasurer may sign or approve checks.

Board chair Adelina Rober to said the CFO, "as custodian of the funds, should not be signatory on the checks."

"For accountability more," she said. "It's just better for accountability."

San Nicolas made the motion to amend banking signatures reflect that the CFO signature be removed from the banking resolution and that signature would have to come from executive director or his designee and from the board starting from the treasurer or his designee.

Man who had sex with minor girlfriend enters guilty plea

Glenn Mafnas Ruben Jr., a 23-year-old man facing separate criminal charges in federal and local courts, in connection to having sex last Christmas Day with his then-14-year-old girlfriend he just met through Facebook, entered a guilty plea in the Superior Court on Friday.

Police said the incident happened in the hallway area of the former fire station in San Roque.

Ruben, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to the offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted Ruben's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Camacho granted defendant's request for a pre-sentence investigation report and set the sentencing hearing for Nov. 30, 2016 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

After the hearing, Ruben was remanded to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Dec. 25, 2015, Ruben, who was then 22 years old, engaged in sex with his then-14-year-old girlfriend on Saipan.

Camacho said Ruben and the victim were boyfriend and girlfriend at the time (Romeo and Juliet).

Camacho said the law makes it illegal for minors to have sex, even consensual sex when there is a three-year age difference.

The judge noted that there was no force or violence during the sexual contact.

Camacho disclosed that Ruben is set to plead guilty in federal court to a five-year sentence that will run concurrently with any sentence imposed in the Superior Court case.

Camacho said Ruben will serve his sentence at the Department of Corrections per the federal plea agreement.

AAG Foley represented in court that the victim and her family agree and support the plea agreement.

An indictment was also filed in federal court charging Ruben with one count each of transfer of obscene material to a minor, receipt

of child pornography, and enticement of a minor.

The indictment also seeks forfeiture of any property

that Ruben allegedly used in facilitating the offenses. Attorney Michael Dotts is the court-appointed counsel

for Ruben.

According to the indictment, between Dec. 13 and 26, 2015, Ruben used the

Internet to knowingly transfer obscene material to a 14-year-old child.

Ruben allegedly used the

Internet to persuade and entice the child to engage in sexual activity. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



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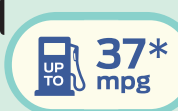
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Honda Accord LX retail price \$26,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$427.63 or \$197.37 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$25,657.80.
Honda HR-V LX retail price \$23,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$380.10 or \$175.43 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$22,806.00.
Honda Pilot EX retail price \$38,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$531.86 or \$245.47 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$38,293.92.

Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth Ports Authority and U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
Public Scoping Meetings for an Integrated Feasibility/Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Rota Harbor Modifications Project, Island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are hosting public scoping meetings for the Proposed Rota Harbor Modifications Project, Island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The purpose of these meetings are to solicit participation and input from all interested federal, state, and local agencies, Native American groups, and other concerned private organizations or individuals on the scope of analysis for the Integrated Feasibility/Environmental Impact Statement (F/EIS). A Federal Notice of Intent to prepare an F/EIS for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register on July 8, 2016.

The F/EIS Public Scoping meetings will be held as follows:

Rota: July 18, 2016
 Rota Roundhouse, Songsong Village
 4:30 pm – Poster Session
 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Formal Scoping Meeting

Saipan: July 20, 2016
 CPA Saipan Seaport Conference Room, Charlie Dock, Puerto Rico Village
 4:30 pm – Poster Session
 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Formal Scoping Meeting

Project Site and Background Information: Since its construction in 1985, users of the Rota West Harbor have experienced problems with navigation within the entrance channel and with vessels docked at the piers attributable to adverse wave conditions and the current harbor configuration. As recently as late 2013, there have been periods when the harbor has shut down and cargo flown to the island at a considerable cost to the island residents. The project will evaluate wave action within the harbor and identify modifications to general navigations features to improve operating inefficiency and safe navigation and address the need to expand the harbor basin to accommodate larger vessels.

Proposed Action(s): The study reports will assess the technical, environmental and economic feasibility in the implementation of navigation improvement. These include: 1) navigation improvement measures that expand the federal turning basin; 2) surge reduction measures by constructing protective structures; and 3) dredging harbor sediments to allow larger vessels access to the harbor.

Issues: Potentially significant issues associated with the project may include: aesthetics/visual impacts, air quality emissions, biological resource impacts, environmental justice, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, traffic and transportation, and cumulative impacts from past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects.

Mail written comments concerning this notice to: Mr. Milton Yoshimoto, Project Manager, Civil and Public Works Branch, Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Civil and Public Works Branch, Bldg 230, Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858. Comment letters should include the commenter's physical mailing address and the project title in the subject line. In order to be considered in the Draft F/EIS, comments and suggestions should be received within 30 days after the last public scoping meeting.

For more information, please contact Mr. Milton Yoshimoto, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, Bldg 230, Ft Shafter, HI 96858, milton.t.yoshimoto@usace.army.mil.

For media enquiries, please contact POH Public Affairs Office at (808) 835-4004 or CEPOH-PA@usace.army.mil.

Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth Ports Authority and U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
Public Scoping Meetings for an Integrated Feasibility/Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Tinian Harbor Modifications Project, Island of Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are hosting public scoping meetings for the Proposed Tinian Harbor Modifications Project, Island of Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The purpose of these meetings are to solicit participation and input from all interested federal, state, and local agencies, Native American groups, and other concerned private organizations or individuals on the scope of analysis for the Integrated Feasibility/Environmental Impact Statement (F/EIS). A Federal Notice of Intent to prepare an F/EIS for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register on July 8, 2016.

The F/EIS Public Scoping meetings will be held as follows:

Tinian: July 19, 2016
 Tinian Courthouse, San Jose Village
 4:30 pm – Poster Session
 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Formal Scoping Meeting

Saipan: July 20, 2016
 CPA Saipan Seaport Conference Room, Charlie Dock, Puerto Rico Village
 4:30 pm – Poster Session
 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Formal Scoping Meeting

Project Site and Background Information: Tinian Harbor is the sole commercial harbor servicing the island of Tinian, CNMI and is owned and maintained by the CPA. Due to its isolation, the harbor is extremely important for the continual flow and transit of goods and materials for the small island community. The CNMI is threatened annually by typhoons and tropical storms which has resulted in the deterioration of the protective breakwater and harbor facilities. Failure of the breakwater would result in complete closure of the harbor, requiring costly air transport as the only remaining option to deliver essential commodities to the island. The project will focus on the repair/reconfiguration of the breakwater and an incremental analysis of the harbor depth to assure safe and efficient operation of commercial vessels.

Proposed Action(s): The study reports will assess the technical, environmental and economic feasibility in the implementation of navigation improvement. These include: 1) navigation improvement measures that expand the federal turning basin; 2) surge reduction measures by constructing protective structures; and 3) expand and deepen the harbor basin and entrance channel to accommodate larger vessels by dredging.

Issues: Potentially significant issues associated with the project may include: aesthetics/visual impacts, air quality emissions, biological resource impacts, environmental justice, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, traffic and transportation, and cumulative impacts from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects.

Mail written comments concerning this notice to: Mr. Milton Yoshimoto, Project Manager, Civil and Public Works Branch, Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Civil and Public Works Branch, Bldg 230, Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858. Comment letters should include the commenter's physical mailing address and the project title in the subject line. In order to be considered in the Draft F/EIS, comments and suggestions should be received within 30 days after the last public scoping meeting.

For more information, please contact Mr. Milton Yoshimoto, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, Bldg 230, Ft Shafter, HI 96858, milton.t.yoshimoto@usace.army.mil.

For media enquiries, please contact POH Public Affairs Office at (808) 835-4004 or CEPOH-PA@usace.army.mil.

Propst introduces 'Copper Wire Theft Control Act'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
 dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) wants to slap no less than a \$5,000 fine and/or jail time for no less than one year for those caught selling or exporting copper wire in the CNMI.

Propst has introduced House Bill 19-174, or the "Copper Wire Theft Control Act of 2016," which aims to prohibit the selling and exporting of copper



Propst

government, businesses, and residents millions of dollars.

"The pursuit of copper has become so common that even copper candle holders at cemeteries are being stolen," the bill states.

It notes a problem of how stolen copper wire becomes "virtually untraceable" and impossible to retrieve because stolen copper has no ID tags or serial numbers that make them identifiable like other stolen goods.

The bill also notes the over \$700,000 that the Marianas Visitors Authority invested in Beach Road pathway lights that was sabotaged

by copper wire thieves who stole some 1,360 feet of wire, with a follow up attempt a few weeks later.

"It would be safe to assume there will be future attempts and if copper wire thieves are successful, we will see a dark pathway once again," the bill says.

The bill goes on to cite national statistics on state legislatures that show that 33 states have enacted laws to regulate scrap metal, inclusive of copper, sales and theft as of 2008. And that as of 2013, the total number increased to 49 states.

It also notes that other countries such as the Bahamas have banned the exporting of copper wire to eliminate the demand for stolen copper wire.

Kilili: \$350K education funding for NMI stays

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said

Saturday a bill to authorize \$350,000 annually for the CNMI was approved unanimously last week in the House Committee on Education on Education and Workforce committee, which Sablan sits on.

Sablan provided an update on H.R. 5587, "the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for

the 21st Century Act" in his newsletter Saturday.

The bill reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, which will help students get the skills that match in-demand jobs in our local economy.

"Marianas funding in the bill is protected for the next six years," Sablan said, "although it estimated some states may see significant

cuts after three years."

He added while it will be challenging in this election year to get the Perkins reauthorization all the way to the President's desk for signature, the bipartisan support for this bill and the Committee's successful track record—passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the Every Student Succeeds Act—give reason for hope. *(Dennis B. Chan)*



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate **\$673,300.00** in LIHTCs for the 2016 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at www.nmhcgov.net.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** at NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, September 12, 2016**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **September 27, 2016**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **4:30 pm October 11, 2016**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **November 2016** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the November 2016 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
 Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

IN CASE OF FINAL REMOVAL ORDERS**DOJ: Only court of appeals has jurisdiction to review challenges**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Justice moves the federal court to dismiss the court action by Amalia Abo Guanlao, a Filipino mother who has been in the CNMI for 22 years now and has two minor U.S. citizen children but was ruled by U.S. Immigration as removable from the U.S. or the CNMI.

DOJ Office of Immigration Litigation District Court Section senior litigation counsel Kimberly Helvey asserted that Guanlao has only repackaged questions of law and fact relating to her removal order—questions which should go to the court of appeals—and has failed to make the required showing.

Helvey is among the counsels for defendants U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement supervisory detention and deportation officer Gerald Zedde, DHS Enforcement and Removal Operations acting supervisor M. Samaniego, ICE immigration officer G. Andersen, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services district director David Gulick, USCIS/DHS Guam/CNMI field office director Stephen P. Green, USCIS/DHS Guam/CNMI acting field office director Irene Adame, USCIS/DHS California Service Center directors Rosemary Langley Melville and Kathy A. Baran, and US-

CIS/DHS California Service Center acting director Donna P. Campagnolo.

The defendants filed on Friday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI a motion to dismiss Guanlao's court action. The court will hear the motion on Aug. 3 at 9am.

Guanlao, through counsel Stephen C. Woodruff, recently filed in federal court an amended petition for writ of habeas corpus and complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief against the defendants.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has stayed pending further court's order the removal of Guanlao, while the court hears the petition on the merits. Manglona said she is mindful of the sensitive nature of these proceedings and will expedite the process.

In defendants' motion to dismiss, Helvey said only the Circuit Court of Appeals may stay removal of an alien.

Helvey said the court should dismiss Guanlao's habeas claim for lack of jurisdiction.

Helvey said petitioner Guanlao has not established that she is in custody sufficient to show habeas jurisdiction.

The lawyer said the statute requires the petitioner to be "in custody" at the time of filing for the federal courts to have habeas jurisdiction.

Helvey said Guanlao asserts only that she is in "constructive custody" because she claims to be "facing imminent involuntary removal" to the Philippines.

Helvey said petitioner has not met her burden to establish that, on the facts of her case, a final order of removal is sufficient to qualify her as "in custody" for habeas review, when she is not detained or otherwise in physical custody.

She said even if Guanlao is "in custody," the Immigration and Nationality Act bars her from collaterally attacking her removal order in district court.

"The law is clear: only the court of appeals has jurisdiction to review chal-

lenges to a final order of removal," she said.

Helvey said Guanlao's lawsuit is an attack on her removal order—directly and indirectly—and this court should dismiss for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction.

Helvey said USCIS' decision to revoke Guanlao's parole is discretionary and unreviewable, and she cites nothing that would overcome this jurisdictional bar.

Helvey said the ineffective assistance of counsel claims

seems to be nothing more than a repackaging of the questions of law and fact that this court lacks jurisdiction to review.

In Guanlao's amended court action, Woodruff asked the court to rule that Guanlao is entitled to a writ of habeas corpus on account of failure and refusal by respondents to exercise discretion where required by law and/or policy to do so.

Woodruff asserted that Guanlao's constructive custody for the purpose of her forced physical removal from the U.S. is contrary to statutory right and in derogation of her constitutional right to due process of law.

The lawyer said Guan-

lao is entitled to declaratory judgment that she was lawfully present in the CNMI as of Nov. 27-28, 2009, and therefore entitled pursuant to the Consolidated Natural Resources Act to continue to live and work in the CNMI at least until June 9, 2011.

Woodruff said his client is entitled to declaratory judgment that she was lawfully present in the CNMI as of Nov. 27-28, 2009, pursuant to the grant of umbrella permit by order of the CNMI Attorney General and therefore entitled pursuant to the CNRA to continue to live and work in the CNMI through Nov. 27, 2011.

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**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP16-OPA-148**

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 03, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"SINGLE AUDIT OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT AND THE
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION (CHCC)
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016"**

THE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE PUBLIC AUDITOR'S MAIN OFFICE AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, EXCEPT HOLIDAYS.

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. DAVID BLAKE, OPA AUDIT MANAGER, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR BY FACSIMILE TO (670) 322-7812.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ MICHAEL PAI, CPA
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Couple files \$2M suit against neighbor for operating junkyard

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Couple Gene Sylvester Eagle-Oden and Anna Glushko are filing a \$1.5- to \$2-million lawsuit against a businessman and his company for allegedly operating next to their house, among other things, a junkyard that stores abandoned cars, heavy equipment, and other construction debris in the village residential area of Susupe Lake.

Eagle-Oden and Glushko, through counsel Stephen J. Nutting, are suing Steve Qian and his company, USA Fanter Corp. Ltd., for nuisance over the construction of canopy, oil storage, perimeter fence, entrance gate, storage container as fence, junkyard, manufacturing activities; assault; and injunctive relief.

Nutting asked the Superior Court to stop defendants from all commercial activity.

Saipan Tribune tried to contact Qian and USA Fanter yesterday for comment, but no one answered the phone.

Nutting said if an injunction is issued, the court should hold defendants liable to pay the couple at least \$500,000 for the loss of enjoyment and use of their properties.

If an injunction is not issued, the lawyer said the court should hold defendants liable to pay plaintiffs \$1 million for the loss of enjoyment and use of their properties.

Nutting also asked the court to hold defendants liable to pay \$500,000 million for damages for the defendants' continuing behavior in creating nuisance and for its unlawful and un-

permitted use of the property for commercial purposes, and another \$500,000 for pain and suffering.

Plaintiffs own and reside in a single-family residence located in the residential area of Susupe Lake. Eagle-Oden has had a residence at that location since 2007.

Nutting said in 2004, Qian obtained a leasehold interest to certain real property located near Susupe Lake, which is adjacent to plaintiffs' properties.

Nutting said since acquiring the property, Qian through Fanter, has conducted commercial activities on the property.

The lawyer said that in 2009 the Saipan Zoning Law Board zoned the area in which Fanter operates as village residential.

Nutting said consequently in 2012, Fanter applied for, and received, a nonconforming structure and use permit (NSUP) for one lot, but the adjoining three lots were not included in such permit application and remain zoned village residential.

Nutting said a holder of an NSUP is not permitted to expand its nonconforming use or its nonconforming structures beyond what existed on Feb. 1, 2008.

In its NSUP application, Fanter listed its activities as "construction (general), mixes uses vehicle repair (auto shop)."

Nutting said Fanter also provided a citation for illegal dumping issues against the company in 2004, likely in order to prove that the company predated Feb. 1, 2008.

Since 2008, the lawyer noted, Fanter has expanded its operations both by building new structures and in the scope of its nonconforming use.

He said Fanter operates a junkyard on its property and causes the storage of abandoned cars, heavy equipment, and other construction debris to be stored in a residential area.

Nutting said a junkyard is a commercial activity and not permitted in an area that is zoned village residential.

In order to support its expansion, Fanter allegedly continues to bring in, heavy ponderous machinery, construction supplies, people, debris, shipping containers, industrial sized tires and parts, and other miscellaneous supplies to support its nonconforming activities.

Nutting said this seemingly never-ending supply train of goods arrives and departs at all hours of the day and night, on holidays and on weekends.

He said this convoy enters and exists within two meters of Eagle-Oden's residence.

"The noise, diesel fumes, vibrations, and pounding incident to operating such heavy equipment at all hours of the day and night has caused significant mental anguish, diminished property value, property damage, and a deprivation of Eagle-Oden's ability to quietly enjoy his property," he said.

Nutting said welding machines operate at all hours and debris is brought in and disassembled with hammers and jackhammers.

Dust from the breaking down of rocks and the passing of heavy equipment on a gravel outside of Oden's kitchen window, allegedly fills the air with smoke and dust which creates a coat of sediment on Eagle-Oden's cars, laundry, and all outside surfaces.

Coral dust and diesel exhaust filters into the couple's home, getting into clothing,

rugs, food, and furniture.

Nutting said that, on Feb. 25, 2014, the Bureau of Environmental Quality issued a permit to Fanter for Land Clearing and Container and Canopy Installation.

Nutting said the site for the clearing and canopy is in the lot zoned as village residential and not subject to the NSUP issued to Fanter in 2012.

Nutting said the canopy and clearing are expansions of the company's commercial business.

Nutting said that, on Nov. 9, 2015, Fanter was issued a permit to construct/install one 4,000 gallon, double wall diesel.

He said the site development plan places the oil storage tank on a lot located in the village residential zone.

Nutting said the storage of oil is an industrial use and not permitted in a village residential zone.

On March 7, 2005, Fanter was allegedly cited by the Division of Environmental Quality for egregious mishandling and disposal of oil.

Nutting said Fanter, in violation of its permit allowing the construction of an oil tank, constructed two oil storage tanks in order to support its expanding commercial operations.

He said Fanter uses the storage tanks to fuel its heavy equipment and support its commercial operations.

Nutting pointed out that diesel fuel is highly flammable and is currently being stored within 150 meters of several apartment buildings, 50 meters from adjoining single-family homes, and within 30 meters of the road.

On Sept. 10, 2014, Fanter was allegedly issued an "after-the-fact" permit for the con-

struction of a perimeter fence and retaining wall.

A month earlier, on Aug. 8, 2014, Fanter was allegedly issued a stop work order for violating the Erosion Control Regulations and for digging up the wetlands and building a fence without a permit.

Nutting said the un-permitted excavation caused significant damage to the adjoining wetlands.

The un-permitted excavation and fence, he said, occurred on a lot located in the village residential zone area and not subject to an NSUP.

On Feb. 17, 2016, Fanter was allegedly issued a permit to clear a lot to relocate its entrance gate,

Nutting said the lot is zoned village residential, but is subject to NSUP.

The new gate, he noted, is larger than the original gate and is being relocated to allow wider and larger equipment to enter and exit the Fanter property.

The fence, he said, is constructed of pieces of sheet metal while the remaining portions of the fence are comprised of shipping containers.

The fence is located 5 meters from Eagle-Oden's residence and is visible from almost all portions of the property.

Nutting described the fence as an eyesore and a nuisance.

On Jan. 14, 2005, Fanter was allegedly cited for having an "open dump" on its property, meaning that the company was keeping debris from its construction sites on its property instead of properly disposing of them at the Marpi landfill.

Nutting said Fanter was fined \$10,000 but negotiated a penalty of \$5,000.

Nutting said 11 years later, Fanter continues to dump debris from its construction sites on its property.

Nutting said Fanter is conducting manufacturing activities as heavy trucks with raw materials enter the property and exit carrying fully assembled beams, walls, and other structures.

On April 29, 2016, an employee of Fanter allegedly walked to the fence line of Eagle-Oden's property, holding a Rottweiler dog on a leash and threatened Glushko and Winnie Santos with bodily harm if either of them ever walked onto Fanter's property.

Glushko and Santos were in fear and apprehension for their immediate safety as the dog was pulling against the leash and lunging toward Glushko and Santos.

Nutting said the police were called and the employee was arrested.

He said Glushko and Santos suffered severe emotional trauma. Nutting said Glushko has had trouble sleeping and eating since the incident, while Santos was still shaking three hours after the incident.

NMI GOP meeting this Thursday

The Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands Association will hold its general membership meeting this Thursday, July 14, 6pm at the Garapan Central Park.

The meeting has been called to order by the local GOP party's president James Ada. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 11, 2000

NMC may offer 4-year degree course

The Northern Marianas College has expressed optimism that its School of Education would be able to offer four-year baccalaureate degrees after the Western Association of Schools and Colleges completes its accreditation of CNMI's center for higher education in October. NMC Development and Alumni Relations Director Tony V. Deleon Guerrero said the college is currently gearing up for WASC's scheduled visit three months from The WASC team last visited the college in 1996 during which NMC was able to gain a six-year accreditation. On the next evaluation, the college is expecting the team to pay close scrutiny to NMC's two-year and three-year Education courses.

Gov't, House meet to discuss change in CUC billing system

Responding to the governor's clamor, the House Ways and Means Committee is looking into his proposal to change the current government utilities payment system in an effort to encourage departments and agencies to cut energy costs.

Committee chair Rep. Antonio M. Camacho has asked the Department of Finance for a breakdown of utilities expenses for the executive branch, Legislature and the judiciary, to begin mapping out the much-needed revamp. This will be the major change to the FY 2001 budget proposal handed in by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio last April to the lawmakers for their approval, which is now the subject

of a series of committee hearings in the lower house.

July 11, 2004

US House Ok's DOI budget for FY05

The federal bill that outlines the proposed fiscal year 2005 budget of the Department of the Interior appropriates close to \$75 million for assistance to the insular areas, including the CNMI. House Resolution 4568 or the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act has reached the U.S. Senate's committee on appropriations, following its introduction at the U.S. Congress last June 15. The bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives on June 17—just two days later. The measure outlines proposed appropriations for the DOI's agencies and programs, which the CNMI could also avail assistance from.

Anatahan eruption continues

The Emergency Management Office maintained its advisory for aircraft to take caution amid continuing volcanic activity on Anatahan. EMO said the seismicity level on the island continues at about 80 percent of the level achieved in late April, which was the highest this year. The agency made these findings after U.S. Geological Survey employees Andy Lockhart and Frank Trusdell visited Anatahan last Friday to service the seismic stations, and observed "strombolian explosions throwing generally coarse material upward a hundred meters or so about once per minute." EMO said the blasts correlate with the explosion signals on the seismic records. The USGS employees also observed that the spatter from the explosions has nearly filled the inner crater.

July 11, 2005

CRM obtains \$1M grant

The Coastal Resources Management Office received a grant

of \$1 million from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration last week to fund CRM's management programs. CRM deputy director Steve Tilley said the office would get \$1,053,000 from NOAA to fund the many responsibilities of the office.

He said CRMO is responsible for implementing federal and local programs aimed at preserving land and coastal resources for future generations. Among its several programs, Tilley said the grant would help the office in providing public education programs, staff training, inter-island training, and preparation of annual reports that are included in federal studies to preserve the environment.

Saipan voted 3rd best destination

Saipan was voted the third best destination in a recent Asiana Airlines cabin crew survey, outranking high-end tourist spots such as Los Angeles, Fukuoka, and Paris. A total of 1,233 members of Asiana's cabin staff participated in the annual survey, the results of which were published in major media outlets in Korea. Asiana-Saipan general manager Kim Kwang Joong reported that Saipan earned a very honorable place behind Bangkok, Thailand and Sydney, Australia. Saipan garnered 7.7 percent of the votes, while Bangkok and Sydney received 12.4 percent and 10.5 percent respectively. Los Angeles ranked fourth with 6.6 percent. It was followed by South Korea's Jeju Island with 4.4 percent; Thailand's Pattaya, 4 percent; and Singapore, 3.1 percent. The survey covered only destinations where Asiana Airlines operates flights. Asiana has offices all over the world, including the United States, Europe, China, Japan, New Zealand, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, India, and Southeast Asia. The Korean air carrier does not have flight service to two of Saipan's major competitors: Hawaii and Guam.

The 9th Mission Support Command (Pacific Army Reserve) will conduct a groundbreaking ceremony at the Saipan U.S. Army Reserve Center, Building F, Industrial Drive, today, July 11, at 10am.

Army Reserve Center to have groundbreaking today

The ceremony commemorates the facility revitalization project of the Saipan USAR Center and construction of an

Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) facility.

Brig. Gen. Stephen K. Curda, Commanding General, 9th

Mission Support Command, will host the event. Ceremony guest speakers are scheduled to include: Lt. Governor of

the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Victor B. Hocog; Brig. Gen. Curda; Capt. Stephanie Jones, Regional Engineer, Joint Region Marianas; and Rick Fair, AAFES Regional manager for Guam, Saipan, and Korea.

The Theater Support Group (TSG) – Pacific, headquartered at Fort Shafter Flats, Hawaii is providing oversight of the construction project. The TSG provides continuous base operations sustainment, facility maintenance management and Soldier support to enhance the 9th MSC readiness throughout the United States Army

Pacific Command area of responsibility. The facility revitalization and AAFES construction projects are expected to be complete by March of 2017.

The 9th MSC is the most ethnically diverse, geographically dispersed command in the U.S. Army Reserve, crossing seven time zones, two states, two territories, a commonwealth and two foreign countries. Its Soldiers speak 29 different languages. It is the only Army Reserve unit to be directly assigned to an Army Service Component Command (U.S. Army Pacific). **(PR)**

Chamber opens afternoon session for 'Supervisor Boot Camp'

With the recent and sudden changes in our community, business owners are left short-handed, understaffed, and panicked with the lack of manpower. With this change, employees are left to juggle or take on new responsibilities. More than ever, businesses are in need of strong, motivated individuals and with the proper skills and trainings, you can groom every employee into a successful leader.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions proudly present "Supervisor Bootcamp," a two-part training seminar that teaches supervisors and team leaders the essential skills to lead others in the workplace. Effective supervisors can make a difference between success and failure of a company. Training your supervisors allows you to instill your company mission and values in your leaders, who pass them on to the frontline workers. Take advantage of this opportunity to train your new supervisors and sharpen the skills of your experienced ones!

In Part 1 of this course, participants will learn how to embrace their new role and assert leadership, how to communicate effectively, and how to identify and manage problems by using a step-by-step process. In part two, participants will learn how to amplify strengths in each team member

to maximize overall success, how to empower and motivate others, and how to manage diversity in the workplace.

The morning sessions for the "Supervisor Boot Camp" has been filled. Due to overwhelming interest in this training, Saipan Chamber of Commerce has decided to open registration for afternoon sessions. Part 1 is set for Thursday, July 21, 2016 from 1:30pm to

4:30pm, and Part 2 is set for Thursday, Aug. 18, 2016 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. Each course is \$45 per person for members and \$50 per person for non-members. Sign up for both courses and get the special price of \$80 (member fee) or \$90 (non-member fee). The "Supervisor Boot Camp" will take place at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Conference Room on the 3rd Floor of Marianas

Business Plaza, Suite #315.

Participants will walk away with knowledge and tools that can be implemented immediately. There is no better time than now to invest in your employees! Take advantage of our special offer by signing up for both courses. Seats are limited. For more information or to register, please call (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. **(PR)**

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ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MICRONESIA
MARIANAS
DISTRIBUTING
CORPORATION
Plaintiff,
-v-
FREDDY U.
HOFSCHEIDER, JR.,
Defendants.

]

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Amended Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 11, 2016, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Lot 025 T 03, containing an area of 48,914 square meters, situated in Marpo Valley, Tinian;

Lot 023 T 24, containing an area of 1,000 square meters, situated in Tinian;

Lot 001 T 13, (formerly block 11, lot 6), containing an area of 1,196 square meters, situated in San Jose Village, Tinian;

Lot 252 T 21, Lot D, containing an area of 1,000 square meters, situated in Tinian;

Part of Lot 117 T 02, containing an area of 1,000 square meters, situated in Tinian;

Lot 035 T 02, containing an area of 1,000 square meters, situated in Tinian;

Part of Lot 35 T 02, containing an area of 4,190 square meters, situated in Tinian;

Tract 22588-2 NEW-6, containing an area of 1,000 square meters, situated in Tinian.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, July 15, 2016, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 20th day of May, 2016:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE



Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fourteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room in San Antonio, Saipan.

AGENDA¹

I. Preliminary

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
 - a. July 6, 2016 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments²

III. Reports

1. Chair
2. Board Committees
 - a. CIP
 - b. FPA
 - c. ISA
 - d. LIA
 - e. SICPP
 - f. SARC
3. Commissioner of Education
 - a. Financial Status Reports
 - i. Federal
 - ii. Local
 - b. Head Start Program
 - c. Others

IV. Unfinished Business

1. Commissioner of Education Contract

V. New Business

1. SY 16-17 Consolidated Grant
2. Head Start Program
 - a. Supplemental Grant Application
 - b. Selection Criteria
 - c. Cost Allocation Plan
 - d. Transportation Waiver
 - e. Disabilities Waiver
 - f. Carry Over EHS
3. Certification and Licensure Recommendations
 - a. CLO Report No. 2016-008

VI. Executive Session³

1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

VII. Administrative Matters

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

¹ In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

² Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

³ Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.



NOTICE OF MEETING NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Thursday, July 14, 2016
Time: 9:00a.m.
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order (9:00a.m – 9:30a.m)

- a. Roll Call
- b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. May 27, 2016 – Regular meeting

II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. (9:30a.m – 9:40a.m)

III. Chairperson's Report (9:40a.m – 9:45a.m)

IV. Reports and Action from Standing Committees (9:45a.m – 10:30a.m)

- a. Fiscal Committee Report
- b. Program Committee Report
- c. Personnel Committee Report
- d. Ad-Hoc Audit Committee Report

V. Old Business (10:30a.m-11:30a.m)

- a. FY2015 Audit
- b. Presidential Search Update

VI. New Business (11:30a.m- 1:30p.m)

VII. NMC Executive Reports (1:30p.m – 2:30p.m)

- a. President's Report
 1. WASC Accreditation Update
 2. Chief Financial Officer Report

VIII. Legislative Updates (2:30p.m-3:00p.m)

IX. Board Meeting Assessment (3:00p.m – 3:15p.m)

X. Miscellaneous Items

XI. Executive Session (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)

- a. Legal Matters
- b. Personnel Matters

XII. Upcoming Board Activities (3:15p.m – 3:30p.m)

- a. Upcoming Events / Activities
- b. Suggested 2016 Regular Meeting BOR Dates

XIII. Adjournment (3:30p.m)

/s/ Frank M. Rabauliman
BOR Chairperson

Date: Thursday, July 14, 2016



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy Birthday to mother and daughter, Carmen Crisostimo (July 11) and Tina Crisostimo (July 10). Love Ray, Shar, Reina, Roy, Jr, DravenM, and Kobo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to San Jose Parish's humble servant, Jonathan Wolf. Bravo on your accomplishment in the National Junior Speech & Debate in Salt Lake City, Utah. Keep up the good work and God bless!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 136Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Saudis in their sights: The kingdom as guardian comes into question

Bomb attacks Monday at three sites in Saudi Arabia, including one in Medina near the believed tomb of the Prophet Muhammad, may have signaled a serious day of reckoning for the Saudi monarchy.

Another blast took place near the American Consulate General in Jiddah and a third at a Shiite mosque in the eastern Qatif region. Four guards were killed. The attacks took place as the Muslim holy month of Ramadan drew to a close, two days before the festival of Eid. Saudi Arabia is predominantly Sunni Muslim, as are the Islamic State and al-Qaida. King Salman of Saudi Arabia is deemed the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques of Islam, in Mecca and Medina. The Medina mosque with the tomb is one of the two.

Americans must express condolences at the loss of life and also at the increase in violence to Saudi Arabia, a longtime ally of the United States in spite of all.

The tottering of the Saudi monarchy is predictable as a result of the spread of extremist violence in Saudi Arabia and particularly the attack on the king's role in Islam that the Medina bomb constitutes. The institution of class rule that the family control of the monarchy over Saudi Arabia's huge oil wealth represents is probably a fated anachronism in 2016 — at risk not only in Saudi Arabia but also in the other Persian Gulf states that the United States has put its money on in that region. All of them — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — are ruled by Sunni Muslim families, with the bulk of their populations more ordinary natives of those states or workers imported from East Asia, South Asia or Africa.

The role of Saudi Arabia, with a king who is deemed to be a Muslim spiritual leader, with responsibility for Mecca and Medina, and which is also waging a brutal, extended war in neighboring Yemen and sees itself as the champion of the Sunnis in a war against Shiite Muslims led by Iran — the Middle East equivalent of the old Catholic-Protestant wars in Europe — is increasingly vulnerable, to the point of being untenable.

The United States has been fighting alongside Saudi Arabia in its religious war with Yemen, including in its savage bombing campaign there. At this point, it needs to get out of the way of the tree, rotten in the interior, beginning to emit cracks in the form of terrorist attacks within its borders, including against a holy place the king is pledged to guard. The fact that one of Monday's bomb attacks took place near an American consulate general underlined the perception by the monarchy's armed critics that America is entirely complicit in what the Saudis are doing in Yemen.

It should be the case, in strictly Muslim terms, that Saudi Arabia should be playing a truly neutral religious role in the intra-faith Shiite-Sunni rivalry. It would be as if Pope Francis were even now, in 2016, playing an active role in fanning flames of hatred and leading the fighting from one side within Christianity, as opposed to trying to patch up matters between Catholics and Orthodox Christians, as he is currently seeking to do.

The three bomb attacks in Saudi Arabia Monday should serve as a bell tolling loudly for the Saudi monarchy, particularly in its role as guardian of Islam's holy places.

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In dust we bask

The island is not stingy with its rain showers but this year is turning out to be dry and the dust blows into homes like flies hover over a discarded pizza on the road. I chanced on spending some time with an old friend in San Isidro, CK, and though the lagoon waters offered a good respite late afternoon or early morn, the sand from the beach managed to claim its share of the space when the wind blew. The broom sweeper was in full duty all day on the typhoon resistant tin/plywood "shack" we called home.

It is not quite the Sahara Desert of North Africa, nor those trampled over by cowpokes of West Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, nor the dust clouds stirred by the constantly moving nomads of Mongolia, but the sands of San Isidro do make their presence known big time.

Sand of time has been used as a metaphor as day ebbs into night, and humans expend in order to expand, for better or for worst. Time, of course, is a human concept to denote passing phenomenon, often measured by nature's seasons (four in the temperate zone), the genealogy of family clans (dynasties of Sinosphere), or lunar and solar rotations, or whatever is convenient for a social unit to hold in common to measure the passage of time.

Sanding is also smoothening a rough surface. After transferring from Aparri of the Cagayan Valley to Laoag, Ilocos Norte, of a young senator named Ferdinand Marcos, my vocational education at seventh grade was woodworking, and I set out to make a wooden clothes' hanger. I was two years younger than any of my classmates by accident (I tagged my older sister to school and she enrolled me to first grade) of going to school early and was not allowed to repeat a grade. I was naturally avoided by classmates who might have helped me with my project were I a bit older. I was a certified though cherubic sissy, good only as a baby faced crown bearer at the school's beauty pageant.

Anyway, I got one of our house hanger and traced it on wood, I then tried to cut it with a saw. I was not good at it. I settled on sanding the unit into shape but at the end, it was smooth but it was still crooked. My teacher could not contain his giggle when I submitted it but he gave me a 76 grade; 75 was passing. He spoke with a smirk on his face when he asked my mother when they meet in church on Sundays how the hanger was doing!

With water, vegetation thrives on sand. It is not sand that is encroaching on the land; it is land and vegetation that is fructifying the sand. The surface of the planet, under the land (organic matter mixed with sand) and under the sea, is sand.

My father was the runt of the litter among his siblings numbering 11 in all. He used to tell us the only soil he was going to bequeath to us was whatever was stuck on the sole of his shoe. With Pinas' penchant for owning land, he was uncharacteristic, though smart on family matters. My cousins are

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



fighting over inherited land; the five siblings in my family do not have anything to fight about.

The stars were once referred to as the sands in the sky. Since Egypt, western civilization was stuck heavenward in preoccupation and academic interest. Astrology was the science of the ancients before we turned to astronomy; alchemy was the art of manipulating substances before we converted it into chemistry.

Now we are fighting over rare earth elements, those valuable "sands" used in the manufacture of computer boards that allows electrical impulses to instruct how they behaved. With everyone and their nanny on a smartphone all over the world, rare earth is in demand big time. China is known to have a good supply of it, and so does Nauru near the equator. The fight over the South China Sea is not about the abundant crude sitting under the ocean floor confirmed in '64; it is the abundant supply of rare earth that China holds and exercises sovereignty over the mines.

The heavens lost its luster save the ancient navigators still ply the ocean highway between Satawal and the Bonin Islands. But though a good friend tries to retain the ancient wisdom of sailing the canoe against the wind with the assistance of heavenly bodies especially between the North Star and the Southern Cross, that has since been replaced by the GPS and other navigational tools.

It may be less sublime, this mundane earthrise consciousness, incomparable with the majesty of eternal verities and the choir of angels in heaven (the Mormons, I understand, dealt with racial prejudice and superiority by claiming that all turn lily white in heaven). They already wear white, silly.

"White beach" is a misnomer; Wing and Pau-Pau beaches are better known for the fabulous corals that are seen when snorkeling, even when damaged by the storm and vandals, than the fine sands on the beach.

The earth, the sand, the humans on it, all made of sand. We've spent too long looking up in the heavens that we've missed the sand in our fingernails.

Sand on earth has us where we belong; to earth we all return. Hello, Sandy!

Must Review NMI Funds

When local funds are hidden in the marshland of uncertainty it would seem prudent that we keep critical ocular review of our revenue collection versus obligations. This is to keep up to the minute information how much is in the coffers.

For instance, it's vital that it is understood how voluntary funds from the casino industry is disposed. While current practice is assumed legal leaving expenditure authority with the governor such funds fall under NMI resources. Therefore, it stands to reason that it's turned over to the legislature for disposition. The authority to appropriate rests with the legislature not the executive branch. It's constitutional!

Furthermore, it's time to revisit the law so there's established what's known as "backroom counting" and taxation. It means certain taxes are assessed the casino daily. In other words, at day's end, BSI accountants, Public Auditor's accountant and Division of Revenue and Taxation meet to count the day's income. It is here that the NMI subtracts its share of taxes. It should prove a stronger source of income than what's being volunteered today. Isn't it revenue we're after?

Scholarship and medical referral funds are spread out where each inhabited island disposes of its own program. This must be broad under a single umbrella so all scholars and patients receive the same amount, including monetary help for escorts.

Some sense of organization is in order at a time when our financial posture is dangling or swinging like seesaw 24/7. Either these measures are taken forthwith or we'd be lining up between San Jose and American Memorial Park with paper bags in hand seeking for donation!

Dangers of disconnection

It's healthy retreating to the quiet corners of our mind while keeping our ears to the ground listening intently to a myriad of conversations from all over.

In family gatherings, novena parties, rosaries, hospital visits, and grocery stores are places you hear the voices of moms. There's no holding back and their expressions are straightforward in every sense of the word. How do you question the daily challenges they face?

For all the hardship families had to endure how do they pull through it all? Fortunately, our culture of communal sharing has helped ease the bouts of siblings at the lower end of the income bracket. This is complimented with federal assistance like food stamps. Imagine their day without this form of help from Uncle Sam.

What's their future over the long-term? Will it be more of the same, worse, or better? What happens upon retirement under the Defined Contribution program? Would there be sufficient funds in family pocketbooks or would this future income turn them quickly into instant poverty?

Then there are families who had to deal with aging parents who need filial piety. I still find comfort in the generosity among siblings to pitch-in as a matter of cultural obligation.

The battered faces of moms who have spoken with decency still leaves behind a trail of hardship at home from stagnant salaries of over 20 years. Reciprocity among siblings has its own limit after which each had to weather the storm living paycheck to paycheck or paycheck advances of about two pay periods. It's hard believing it but it's happening!

I also hear the voices of folks dealing with emotional bouts of loved-ones hospitalized for long-term illnesses whose health consistently deteriorate. I can understand and appreciate this experience having dealt with it for seven-nine long years in and out of hospitals. It turned out to be a spiritual journey where in my naked and dark hours alone there's nothing left but my faith.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Racism is everywhere

I do concur that racism is everywhere. Although, I am not sure if racism will disappear or decrease. Racism is a part of biology, no matter how much we want to deny it. The main cause to racism is fear or hatred of the unknown. Part of the unknown are things that are different. As a species we cling on stability, so when something different comes along we get scared. Trying to persuade the younger generation into accepting each other as equals, in my opinion, seems futile. As a part of that younger generation, we like to classify ourselves. We will always find others different because we don't want to be the same as the them.

Tristian Doyle
Sadog Tasi

As we speak of hardship, in some significant ways we the voters are also our own worse enemies. This is what we voted for thus the messy menu on the table while taking a quick review of the net result of our decision. Do you still wish to repeat failure?

Troubling how apathy, indifference and inconsequence rule the day. The elected elite simply ignores fiduciary duty. Isn't there any sense of perception to understand the wellbeing of their people? Why is there such adolescent behavior? Would you still brave empty "biba?"

Fabrication of culture

The commercialization of culture has encouraged its exploitation and prostitution in despicably humiliating fashion. For instance, a so-called master said he's been to most Pacific islands and found that the chant is part of the CHamoru culture. Really? The latest addition is blacksmithing.

Marching toward my 70s, I grew up in Lali Fo' where I heard chants as part and whole of the Carolinian culture used in solemn and festive occasion. I've never heard Chamorro chant or I would have learned it then. But it didn't then so why has its exploitation in fabrication become the so-called "contemporary" culture?

We learned of the strength of our male ancestors who plucked nails from Magellan's boat. That was their first experience with metal. But blacksmithing is now seen as cultural. Really? Did we ever mine ore in ancestral times for metal farming equipment or

After 'Brexit,' French start looking to their own elections

PARIS—These days, there is one overriding issue on the minds of the French. It isn't "Brexit."

Nor is it whether France will copy Britain and Frexit the European Union. Pas du tout.

What is fixating the French is whether their national soccer team will beat Portugal in the final of the Euro 2016 championship tournament. Raucous celebrations for France's semifinal win over Germany went on most of Thursday night outside the Paris apartment where I'm staying.

The national team, with its "Black, Blanc, Beur" (black, white, and Arab) faces is often extolled as the symbol of French unity (although charges of racism bubbled over this year's choice of team players).

Yet even a French soccer triumph won't disguise the growing divisions in French society, which the impact of the British vote is exacerbating. Those delirious days when the French victory in the 1998 World Cup created an illusion of racial harmony seem eons away.

Brexit has energized the far-right populist National Front party of Marine Le Pen, who calls herself Madame Frexit and wants France to leave the European Union. Her party won 28 percent of the vote in last year's regional elections, and she is widely expected to make it to the runoff round of the presidential ballot next year.

Le Pen's followers have been hit by globalization and the hollowing out of industry (although she offers little to help them, since their situation wouldn't be improved by a Frexit). But voters respond to her denunciations of the EU policies that enabled the 2015 surge of Arab and Afghan immigrants into Europe (even though hardly any of them came to France).

She knows her voters' real concern is France's urban or suburban slums, known as banlieues, filled with legal Muslim immigrants from former French colonies in Africa who have trouble assimilating.

In the wake of last year's terrorist attacks on Paris, many Frenchmen fear the banlieues could harbor jihadis. This widespread failure of assimilation is a politically fraught issue and rarely addressed directly by politicians, in a country that prides itself on the firm (but ill-founded) belief that every citizen of the republic is equal. Because it is swept under the rug, the issue is easy for populists to manipulate.

The question is how far Le Pen can ride the public's fears.

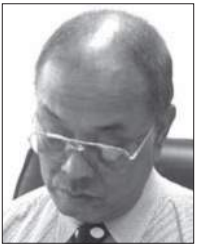
Most pundits here doubt she can win the presidency or that France will leave Europe. "For France, Europe is more important than for the British," explains Sylvie Kauffman, the editorial director and former editor-in-chief of Le Monde. While island Britain has always been wary of the continent, France regarded a united Europe as a vehicle for French power.

Indeed, polls have shown that the French had second thoughts after Brexit on the issue of Europe. While a Pew Research poll done in April and May showed 61 percent held unfavorable views toward Europe, French polls taken after the British vote

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



wasn't this something we picked from the Spanish?

Sure, Euro-writers have written of the hula dance in Hawaii to promote the islands and the iconic coconut tree stripped of its seeds. Not one explained the spiritual aspect of the hula. It's featured with a young girl half naked to boost tourism. It's a dance a famous Polynesian activist called the prostitution of a culture that plays into the minds of single men from Europe and the military. The diatribe fits the targeted audience!

As island professors and writers—standing as the social conscience of their people—begin explaining culture "From the Inside Out" the greater the clarity what land and culture represents in Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia. Their views fit the claim that "Our Sea of Islands" belongs to the indigenous people. It derails the European belief that they could own islands across the Pacific.

By **TRUDY RUBIN**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.



show that 55 percent reject the idea of a referendum and 61 percent want to stay in the EU.

However, the populists' success has skewered French politics rightward, and undercut centrist parties in ways that may sound somewhat familiar to Americans.

The current president, Socialist Francois Hollande, has historically dismal ratings and is considered unlikely to win re-election.

But the center-right Republican (I kid you not) party is riven by competition between a realist and a populist candidate, who will fight it out in the first open French presidential primary in November.

Former President Nicolas Sarkozy is trying to overcome his nasty reputation for past failures by appealing to a hard-line Republican base and adopting Le Pen-style populism. He is running on an anti-immigration program that endorses the traditional values of "eternal France." Like an American politician we know, he is also a fan of strongman Vladimir Putin. (One can imagine the threesome of Donald Trump, Putin, and Sarkozy standing arm in arm.)

On the other hand, former president and elder statesman Alain Juppe is running as the voice of reason who represents the wisdom of age and experience and can calm the upheavals in the country. He thinks he can win by playing the anti-populist card. "Populism is seduction," he told the Financial Times, "hence it is lying."

"People are sensible," Juppe also said. "Indignation is not a method for governing."






Imagine anyone being that blunt with Trump.

If Juppe gets the nomination, most pundits believe he can beat Le Pen in the final round. That would be an amazing example of the supposedly excitable French providing a calming example to the supposedly phlegmatic Brits who went nuts over Brexit. It would also provide a breather for Britain, since Juppe clearly wants to find a way to keep the British at least halfway in Europe.

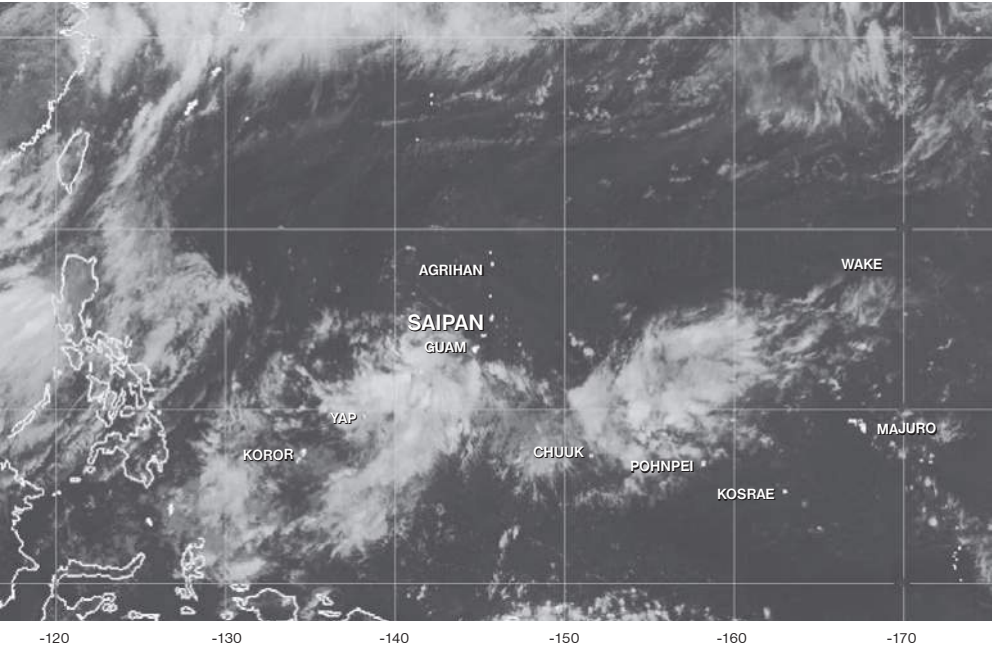
But whether France is prepared to be sensible will only be revealed months from now. There are even some scenarios that give Le Pen a slim chance of victory because of several minor candidates who can siphon off votes from favorites.

Meantime, we can watch to see whether a French soccer triumph brings the country together in a surge of racial harmony and good feelings — or whether a defeat gives another boost to the populist trend.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian				
TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Variable winds 5 to 10 mph becoming northeast Tuesday.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼80°	▲89° ▼80°	▲89° ▼80°	▲89° ▼80°	▲89° ▼80°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northeastward from southwest of Palau at EQ131E through a weak circulation centered west of Guam at 14N142E to end near the northern tip of the Mariana Islands at 21N145E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen west of Koror, west of a line from 2n135e to 10n133e. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring from Yap to west of Guam within 115 miles of a line from 9N137E to 13N143E, and also south of Yap and Guam within 105 miles of a line from 3N138E to 12N146E. Another weak circulation is centered northwest of Pohnpei near 9N156E. An upper-level low is centered in the vicinity near 12N153E. The interaction between these systems is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just north of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 125 miles of a line from 8N148E to 14N161E. Isolated thunderstorms are found near Chuuk and Pohnpei between 6N and 8N from 153E to 158E, and also near Enewetak Atoll between 11N and 15N from 162E to 167E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▼82	▲92
Palau	Cloudy	▼78	▲86
Yap	Cloudy	▼77	▲88
Chuuk	Sunny	▼77	▲87
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▼75	▲87
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▼82	▲87
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▼82	▲86

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▼51	▲57
Beijing	Sunny	▼78	▲99
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▼82	▲87
Honolulu	Sunny	▼73	▲83
London	Showers	▼60	▲70
Los Angeles	Clear	▼64	▲79
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▼81	▲88
Melbourne	Cloudy	▼51	▲56
Miami	Cloudy	▼82	▲89
New York	Mostly Sunny	▼69	▲82
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▼75	▲82
Paris	Cloudy	▼64	▲74
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▼75	▲81
Rome	Sunny	▼67	▲95
Salem	Showers	▼56	▲73
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▼55	▲70
Seoul	Cloudy	▼64	▲89
Tokyo	Sunny	▼72	▲88
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▼67	▲87



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
12:40 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.86 Feet
7:18 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.77 Feet
12:18 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.38 Feet
6:41 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.52 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Tuesday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Monday	11:36 AM	11:51 PM
Tuesday	12:23 PM	
Wednesday	1:10 PM	12:30 AM
Thursday	1:58 PM	1:09 AM
Friday	2:47 PM	1:50 AM

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 6, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETA: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily				
			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA			
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily				
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily				
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily				
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily				
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily							

Pacifica Insurance holds annual art contest

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. will be holding its annual Pacifica Art Contest to ring in the upcoming holiday season. The contest will give individuals a chance to express their creativity and artistic skills.

The contest is open to individuals between ages 6-17 years old. It will be divided into two categories: Category 1: ages 6-11 and Category 2: ages 12-17. All entries will be required to create an original art piece depicting the slogan

“Rest assured, it’s Christmas.” Allowable mediums include watercolors, oil based paint, pastels, crayons, and/or pencils. Dimensions must not exceed 18” x 24”.

Art pieces must be submitted to Pacifica Insurance’s office located in Susupe by Sept. 16, 2016 at 3pm. Submittals must be in original state and indicate full name, age, school name, mailing and email addresses, and telephone number.

Artwork will be judged

based on creativity, quality, theme, and presentation. The panel of judges will include: Tribe Marianas creative director Rob Travilla, Tan Holdings

vice president of logistics Alex Sablan, and Quinn Consulting, LLC owner Kanae Quinn.

Winners will be announced on Sept. 30, 2016. Cash prizes

will include \$200 cash and a gift basket.

For information about the Art Contest, call 234-6267/7722/7310 or log on

to www.pacificains.com/art-contest/. You may also visit our office during normal business hours from Monday-Friday. **(PR)**

‘Remain Loyal to Jehovah’ regional convention set

Jehovah’s Witnesses are inviting the public to attend their 2016 “Remain Loyal to Jehovah!” Regional Conventions. Beginning in May 2016, the Witnesses will be hosting these free events in the United States and around the world.

The three-day program will feature 49 presentations, each exploring the theme “loyalty.” Additionally, the Witnesses have prepared 35 video segments specifically for the program plus two short films that will be shown on Saturday and Sunday. Each day, the morning and afternoon sessions will be introduced by music videos recorded for the convention.

As they have in years past, the Witnesses will distribute a special invitation to the public on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota welcoming them to attend the program. The dates for the local convention on Saipan will be from July 29 to 31 at the Royal Taga Hall, Saipan

World Resort. The session begins each day at 9:20am. Admission is free to all and no collections are ever taken.

David A. Semonian, a spokesman for Jehovah’s Witnesses at their world headquarters in Brooklyn, New York, states: “We strongly believe that loyalty is an essential part of any healthy relationship. Our convention this year features content that will help people develop stronger bonds with friends, family members, and, above all, with God. We are confident that all who attend will enjoy this program.”

On a local note, Jehovah’s Witnesses have been on Saipan since 1962. Currently, there are three congregations of Jehovah’s Witnesses on the island: two English and one Tagalog. There are also weekly meetings held in Chinese, Korean, and American Sign Language. **(PR)**

Kagman Community Church’s Free Kids Camp starts today

Kagman Community Church near Ling Lin Store in Kagman will have a free Kids Camp for children ages 4-11, Monday-Thursday, July 11-14 from 9am-12pm. The theme will be Super Hero Training

Camp. The camp will include songs, games, crafts, snack, and a Bible study all having to do with the Super Hero theme. Please call 256-8171 or email flybjrew@yahoo.com to register your child. **(PR)**

USCIS officials available to speak with employer groups in CNMI

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials will be traveling to Saipan and Rota at the end of July and available to speak with employers about the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker (CW visa) and H non-immigrant visa classifications. Local employers will have the opportunity to learn more about these immigration programs and ask officials questions.

The team will be in Saipan on July 26-27, 2016, and Rota

July 29, 2016. If you are an employer or employer-representative who would like USCIS officials to speak to your

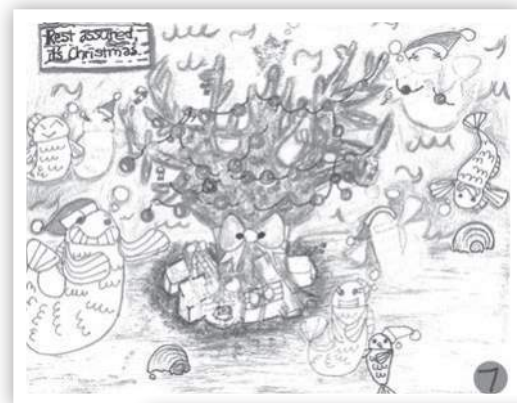
**» Topics will cover
CW and H visa
classifications**

organization, please contact us at: Hawaii. CommunityRelations@uscis.dhs.gov or call (808) 687-6313.

USCIS, is an agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, handles immigration benefits. More information can be found at www.uscis.gov/cnmi. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. executive vice president Shirley Sablan, far left, 2015 Pacifica Art Contest Category 1 winner Julia Kim Ji Hae, Pacifica underwriter Samantha Sikayun, second right, and Grace Christian Academy principal Beth Ann Nunez.



Category 1
Julia Kim
Ji Hae's
winning art
piece.



Category 2
winner
Grace
Eichenberger's
winning art
piece.



2015 Category 2 winner Ellie Grace Eichenberger, front third left, with Pacifica EVP Shirley Sablan and underwriter Samantha Sikayun, far left, with the winner's classmates.

Who wants to be Saipan's Next Top Chef?

Attention all chefs and amateurs! Do you love to cook? Are you ready to show off your culinary skills and help a worthy cause? If so, then sign up for this exciting challenge. You may see your name as the title holder of the “2016 Saipan’s Next Top Chef Competition!”

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation announces the fourth annual fundraiser, scheduled for Sept. 24, 2016 from 2pm to 4pm. The venue will be announced at a later date, contingent upon the number of participants. Thank you to the sponsors and supporters who have assisted each year in making our signature event fundraiser a success.

Diana Benavente, a volunteer of EVM, expressed that the funds raised from the event provides needed school supplies to children on Saipan and also provides some basic necessities for families in need. Since 2011, when the Saipan Next Top Chef Competition was first launched, 1,700 children have benefited from this back-to-school program. The 2013 proceeds provided



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Chef Melquiades De Ramos, 2011 Saipan Next Top Chef winner, is assisted by a Kagman High School culinary student in this file photo.

the Saipan Aging Center with brand new toilets.

“Our organization also sponsors children in Kenya and the

Philippines with education tuition for orphans and street children,” Benavente said.

The 2011 Saipan’s Top Chef winner, chef Melquiades De Ramos, said “The best part about winning is knowing that I was a part of an event that raised money to help desperate families, especially children and women.” De Ramos added. “I encourage all chefs to join the competition and help this wonderful charity.”

In the recent disaster of typhoon Soudelor, EVM was able to assist more than 6,000 individuals by providing basic needs. This was made possible through the generous donations of local supporters/organizations/businesses and off-island groups like Aloha for Saipan. Northwest Pacific Operation, Sons of Saipan, and the residents of Guam and Rota.

Prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 chefs garnering points from a panel of judges. Space is limited so EVM encourages you to apply now. For those who are interested in competing, please contact the organizers, Diana Benavente and Rose Smith 235-2340 or 4830162 or email emptyvesselministry@gmail.com. **(PR)**

The 40th Annual Conference of the Pacific Circle Consortium

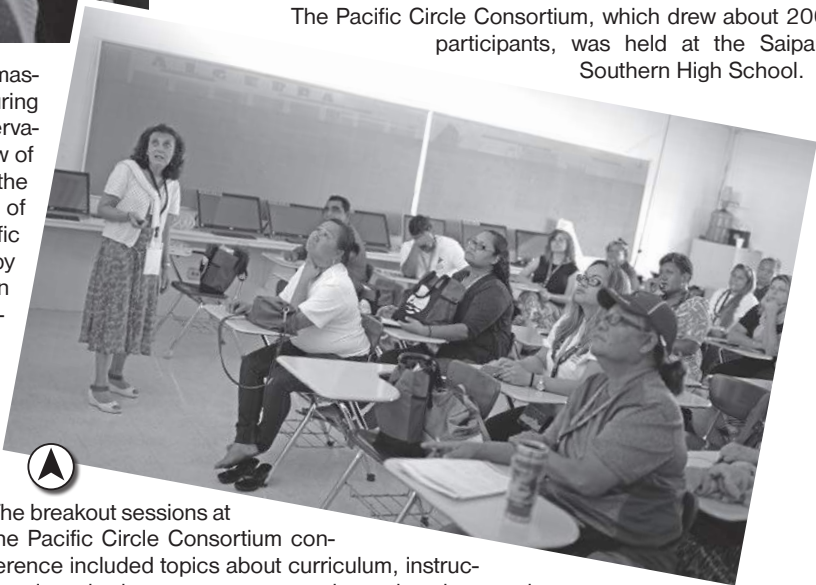
CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The Pacific Circle Consortium, which drew about 200 participants, was held at the Saipan Southern High School.



A posthumous award was presented to master navigator Mau Pailug for his enduring commitment to the practice and preservation of the traditional navigation. The crew of the *Alingano Maisu* helped to accept the award on his behalf during the last day of the 40th Annual Conference of the Pacific Circle Consortium, which was hosted by CNMI Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and RTI International, Thursday.



The breakout sessions at the Pacific Circle Consortium conference included topics about curriculum, instructional methods, assessment, teacher education, workforce development, college readiness, and other topics.



Many of the breakout sessions at the Pacific Circle Consortium included small group activities.



Workshop participants, which numbered about 200, included attendees from the CNMI and other Pacific nations and territories.



Members of the Senate and House of Representatives were on hand at the Pacific Circle Consortium to present a commemorative legislative join resolution.



University of Guam President Dr. Robert Underwood (left) was one of the featured speakers at the Pacific Circle Consortium. He also attended the breakout sessions.



Public School System Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan is surrounded by her leadership team and children after she accepted the “Peter Brice Award” at the Pacific Circle Consortium Banquet.



Northern Marianas College dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan was one of the speakers at the Pacific Circle Consortium conference.



Bank of Guam, here represented by its employees including VP/branch manager Marcie Tomokane (second from left), was a gold sponsor of the Pacific Circle Consortium. Also in photo are NMC Board of Regents member Cyndi Deleon Guerrero (third from left).



RTI director of Educational Partnerships Dr. Richard Seder (right) facilitated one of the many presentations at the Pacific Circle Consortium.



A delegate from Palau signs his name on the commemorative poster for the Pacific Circle Consortium.



The presentation on the Chamorro Language was led by NMC dean of Academic Bobbie Merfalen and Dr. Faye Untalan.



Masashi Urabe of Hiroshima (standing) conducted one of the presentations at the Pacific Circle Consortium.



The breakout sessions at the Pacific Circle Consortium conference included topics about curriculum, instructional methods, assessment, teacher education, workforce development, college readiness, and other topics.

Nation

Dallas gunman learned tactics at Texas self-defense school

DALLAS (AP)—The gunman who killed five police officers at a protest march had practiced military-style drills in his yard and trained at a private self-defense school that teaches special tactics, including “shooting on the move,” a maneuver in which an attacker fires and changes position before firing again.

Micah Johnson, an Army veteran, received instruction at the Academy of Combative Warrior Arts in the Dallas suburb of Richardson about two years ago, said the school's founder and chief instructor, Justin J. Everman.

Everman's statement was corroborated by a police report from May 8, 2015, when someone at a business a short distance away called in a report of several suspicious people in a parked SUV.

The investigating officer closed the case just minutes after arriving at a strip mall. While there, the officer spoke to Johnson, who said he “had just gotten out of a class at a nearby self-defense school.”

Johnson told the officer he was “waiting for his dad to arrive” and pick up his brother. No one else was apparently questioned.

On Friday, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings described Johnson as “a mobile shooter”



Well-wishers light candles at a makeshift memorial in honor of the slain Dallas police officers in front of police headquarters, in Dallas, Saturday, July 9, 2016.

who had written manifestos on how to “shoot and move.”

Authorities have said the 25-year-old gunman kept a journal of combat tactics and had amassed a personal arsenal at his home, including bomb-making materials, rifles and ammunition.

The academy website refers to one of its courses as a “tactical applications program,” or TAP.

“Reality is highly dynamic, you will be drawing your firearm, moving, shooting on the move, fixing malfunc-

tions, etc. all under high levels of stress,” the website says. “Most people never get to train these skills as they are not typically allowed on the static gun range.”

The TAP training includes “shooting from different positions,” “drawing under stress” and “drawing from concealment.” Everman declined to specify which classes Johnson took.

“I don’t know anything about Micah. I’m sorry. He’s gone. He’s old to us. I have

thousands of people,” Everman told The Associated Press on Saturday.

The two men, however, were friendly and talked in Facebook conversations in August 2014. Everman knew Johnson had been out of the country. Army officials said he had been deployed in Afghanistan around that time.

Everman suggested that Johnson “let me know when you make it down this way.”

“Will be great to get you back in the academy,” Ever-

Shooting of Dallas officers spurs acts of kindness to police

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—The Dallas shooting that killed five officers has spurred an outpouring of support for police, not only in Texas but hundreds of miles away.

Around the country, people have showed up at local departments with flowers, sent social media messages or called to say thanks. They delivered coffee, pizzas, cakes and moments of solace for officers grieving after the deadliest day for U.S. law enforcement since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

SHARED SORROW

One after another, members of the public lined up to hug uniformed officers at a community prayer service Friday in Dallas.

Two patrol cars serving as a memorial outside of police headquarters were adorned with flowers, signs and flags by some of the people pausing to pay their respects to the five officers killed and seven wounded.

John Fife, with his ball cap in hand, passed a red rose to an officer sitting in a vehicle guarding those headquarters. In another corner of the coun-

try, a Seattle officer accepted a matching flower from Jasen Frelot, one of several people from the faith community there who set out to show police support.

‘WE NEED THEM’

Officers also received roses in the Cleveland suburb of South Euclid, where they found single stems on their cruiser windshields Friday morning. The Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, a Beachwood pastor and a former police chaplain, said she put flowers on Beachwood and South Euclid officers’ cars as a sign of gratitude.

“I just want them to know that they’re loved and they’re supported and we need them,” she told WOIO-TV.

COMFORT FOOD

Abigail Bullard had similar thoughts while home with her 6- and 10-year-old sons in suburban Philadelphia, where the younger boy’s fascination with emergency services personnel has developed into a friendship with a few Radnor Township officers. Bullard had observed the kinship within their profession and

knew they’d be affected by this week’s news, so she and her sons delivered cookies and soft pretzels as comfort.

“It was important to me to say, here we have two young black children that are trying to do the right thing because friends of ours have had a death in the family,” she said. When she shared the story on Facebook, she concluded it simply: “Not all young black men are bad, and not all police officers are bad.”

A few miles down the road, the Lower Merion Police Department said its officers had heavy hearts but full bellies after another woman and her son delivered a stack of pizzas Friday. They also received coffee and doughnuts, a gesture reported by numerous police departments this weekend.

One of them, the Voorhees Police Department in New Jersey, said such actions “have made us feel better during a very sad time to be a police officer.”

STOPPED FOR THANKS

Still others simply stopped officers on the street to chat or offer hugs.

Police killed in Dallas



Source: Chicago Tribune reporting
Graphic: Tribune News Service

man said, according to a comment thread saved by the AP before Johnson’s Facebook profile was taken down.

“I concur!” Johnson replied. More recently, a neighbor reported to investigators that Johnson had been seen practicing some sort of military drill in his backyard in the Dallas suburb of Mesquite,

said Clay Jenkins, the Dallas County judge, the county’s most senior elected official.

Tensions were still high Saturday in Dallas, where 20 square blocks of downtown remained cordoned off as a crime scene. The police department tightened security Saturday evening after receiving an anonymous threat.

Obama asks Americans not to fear a return to a dark past

WARSAW, Poland

(AP)—President Barack Obama on Saturday rejected any notion that the past week’s stunning violence signals a return to racial brutality of a dark past, saying that as painful as the killings of police and black men were, “America is not as divided as some have suggested.”

With five Dallas police officers dead at the hands of a sniper and two black men dead at the hands of police, Obama appealed to Americans not to be overwhelmed by fear of a return to 1960s-style chaos and to understand the progress that has been made in racial relations since that time.

“You’re not seeing riots and you’re not seeing police going after people who are protesting peacefully,” he said. “You’ve seen almost uniformly peaceful protests and you’ve seen, uniformly, police handling those protests with professionalism.”

Obama spoke at the conclusion of a NATO summit in Warsaw before leaving for Spain, part of a farewell trip to Europe he was cutting short by one day because of the developments at home.

The comments marked the third time in as many days that Obama has spoken, from a distance, about the police-involved fatal shootings of black men in Louisiana and



Minnesota that were followed by a sniper attack in Dallas that killed five police officers. Seven other officers and two civilians were also injured.

Obama said the Dallas shooter, a black Army veteran who was later killed by police, was a “demented individual” who does not represent black Americans any more than a white man accused of killing blacks at a church in Charleston, South Carolina, represents whites.

The president said he would visit Dallas in a few days to pay respects and mourn with the stricken Texas city. The shootings, and the ensuing protests in some U.S. cities, led to an uncharacteristic response from the president: He cut his five-day, two-country European trip to four days. On his flight to Spain, he called Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to offer his condolences on behalf of the American people, the White House said.

While Obama proceeded with his plan to visit Madrid, he scrapped a stop in the southern city of Seville. He was cramming two days of events into one, including meetings with interim President Mariano Rajoy and a visit with U.S. sailors stationed at a naval base in Rota.

Asia

N. Korea's missile likely failed after launch from submarine

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea launched a ballistic missile from a submarine but it likely failed in its early stage, the latest in a string of tests that are part of efforts by the North to advance technology capable of delivering nuclear warheads, the U.S. and South Korea said.

The U.S. Strategic Command said that the missile was tracked Saturday over the sea between the Korean Peninsula and Japan, where it apparently fell.

It was launched from a location near the North Korean coastal town of Sinpo, where analysts have previously detected efforts by the North to develop submarine-launched ballistic missile systems, said an official from Seoul's Defense Ministry, speaking on

condition of anonymity because of office rules.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement that it presumed the missile successfully ejected from the submarine's launch tube, but failed in its early stage of flight. South Korea's Yonhap news agency said that the missile likely flew only a few kilometers (miles) before exploding in midair, but the Defense Ministry official couldn't confirm the report.

North Korea acquiring the ability to launch missiles from submarines would be an alarming development for rivals and neighbors because missiles from submerged vessels are harder to detect in advance. While security experts say it's unlikely that North Korea possesses an

operational submarine capable of firing missiles, they acknowledge that the North is making progress on such technology.

North Korea already has a considerable arsenal of land-based ballistic missiles and is believed to be advancing its efforts to miniaturize nuclear warheads mounted on missiles through nuclear and rocket tests.

U.S. Army Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, NATO's top military commander, told reporters Saturday that North Korea's latest missile test represents a serious threat, both to the region and the U.S.

"With every launch, they're getting better and they're working out their problems," said Scaparrotti, who until recently commanded U.S. forces in South Korea.

Chinese navy holds live-fire drills in South China Sea

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese warships, fighter jets and submarines held live-fire war games in the South China Sea, state media reported, just days ahead of an international tribunal's ruling on a challenge to Beijing's expansive claims in the waters.

The high-profile display of naval hardware is China's latest salvo in a propaganda offensive aimed at demonstrating its military might and asserting its sovereignty over the disputed region.

Though China has said the exercises are routine, they come ahead of The Hague-based arbitration tribunal's ruling Tuesday in a case

brought by the Philippines contesting China's claims in the South China Sea. China says the tribunal has no jurisdiction and says it will not accept the verdict.

China Central Television showed video of Friday's drills, conducted by three fleets of the People's Liberation Army Navy in and around the Paracel Islands, which are also claimed by Vietnam.

The footage showed missiles and torpedoes being launched from ships, jets flying in formation and releasing flares, and submarines surfacing in the water. The drills are aimed at testing the navy's battle-readiness and

are scheduled to run till Monday, CCTV said.

Zhao Yanquan, a commander of a guided missile destroyer, said the scenario tested the troops' ability to locate enemy submarines, where enemy warships are attacking from and when enemy jets are taking off.

"We gather the information, analyze it and make decisions upon it. For us, it is a real war situation and therefore a test to that effect," Zhao said.

Earlier in the week, Vietnam protested the Chinese drill and has demanded that Beijing stop acting in a way that threatens security and maritime safety.

World

Iraq PM: Key base taken back from IS

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraqi forces recaptured a northern air base from the Islamic State group on Saturday, a victory hailed by the prime minister as a key step ahead of the long-awaited operation to retake the northern city of Mosul.

In a statement issued on his web site, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi described the air base in the town of Qayara as an "important base to liberate Mosul," and called on Mosul residents "to get ready for the liberation of their areas."

Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, fell to IS militants in the summer 2014, when the extremist group captured large swaths of northern and western Iraq. In late March, Iraqi forces launched an operation aimed at dislodging IS from areas to the south and southeast of Mosul and gradually cutting off the



AP
An Iraqi places a flowers on an impromptu shrine outside a Baghdad shopping mall targeted last Sunday by a suicide bombing claimed by the Islamic State group, in the Karada neighborhood of Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, July 9, 2016.

city's supply lines.

But retaking Mosul itself is not likely to come anytime soon. It will be an enormous undertaking for Iraqi troops, even though they are backed by airstrikes from the U.S.-led coalition and have been joined by pro-government fighters—

mostly Shiite militias.

In the mostly Sunni province of Anbar, west of Baghdad, government troops on Saturday consolidated their grip on the provincial capital of Ramadi, retaken from the IS last year, when they captured two villages just north of the city.

NATO boosts support for countries battling Islamic extremism

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—NATO allies agreed Saturday to provide increased military support to countries in the Middle East and North Africa that are targets of Islamic extremism, including using NATO surveillance planes in the fight against the Islamic State group.

Alliance leaders also agreed to launch a new naval mission in the Mediterranean, and made commitments to maintain a stable military presence in Afghanistan and to fund Afghan security forces through 2020.

"We're moving forward with the most significant reinforcement of our collective defense any time since the Cold

War," U.S. President Barack Obama said at a news conference at the end of a crucial NATO summit in Warsaw.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said NATO will start a training and capacity-building mission for Iraqi armed forces in Iraq, a country he called central in the fight against IS. NATO is also working to establish an intelligence center in Tunisia, a major recruiting ground for IS, and will shortly start providing support to Tunisian special operation forces.

"Today we have taken decisions to strengthen our partners and to project stability beyond our borders," Stoltenberg told reporters. He said

millions of people in Africa and the Middle East have been rendered "homeless and helpless" by radical organizations like IS and that the extremist groups are also to blame for organizing terrorist attacks in Europe and America.

Obama, who was attending his last NATO summit, called it "a pivotal moment for our alliance."

"In nearly 70 years of NATO we have perhaps never faced such a range of challenges all at once—security, humanitarian, political," he said. But he concluded that with the multifaceted efforts being made, "NATO is as strong, as nimble and as ready as ever."

Kenya: Calls for justice heard as human rights lawyer buried

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Slain Kenyan human rights lawyer Willie Kimani and a taxi driver were buried Saturday in their hometowns amid calls for top officials to resign over police-linked extra-judicial killings.

Kimani was buried in his hometown of Kabete, while driver Joseph Muiruri was buried in Kinangop in central Kenya.

They were among three men believed to have been killed by police after being abducted on June 23. Their bodies were pulled out of a river just over a week ago.

The third man, Josephat Mwenda, a motorcycle taxi driver, had sought Kimani's help in pursuing charges against a police officer for shooting him.

Four police officers are facing murder charges in connection with the three deaths.

Isaac Okero, the chairman of Kenya's bar association, has called for the resignation of the East African country's interior minister and police chief.

"What is the cause for extra-judicial execution? Corruption is the cause. If we treat that these things will come to an end. We cannot finish corruption in the court or the police if at the parliament corruption is rife, if at the executive corruption is rife," said Paul Muite, a prominent lawyer and former member of parliament for Kabete in central Kenya.

Kimani worked in Kenya as a lawyer for the International Justice Mission, a U.S.-based rights group.

IJM's Kenya director Claire Wilkinson paid tribute to Kimani's in a eulogy at his gravesite burial.

"Willie lived up to what he believed in and he fought for it every day," Wilkinson said.

"Our heartbreak at losing Willie is very real and very raw. But Willie has set a fire in us, a fire that is now burning across Kenya, a fire for justice. And it's our responsibility to ensure the fire will not go out," she said.

The killings have sparked days of peaceful demonstrations and a week-long job action by Kenyan lawyers demanding an end to the extra-judicial killings that human rights groups say are pervasive. The lawyers have been boycotting court sessions except for urgent matters.



ASIAN BRIEFS

Prominent Cambodian political analyst shot dead

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Police in Cambodia say a dispute over money led to the shooting death of a prominent political analyst at a shopping mall in the capital Phnom Penh. National police spokesman Gen. Kirth Chantharith says Kem Lay was shot dead Sunday morning and his attacker arrested shortly after. He says the suspect claimed to have carried out the shooting because Kem Lay allegedly failed to pay him back for a loan. The killing comes at a time of political tension that began last year with the pressure on the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party by the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Pakistani PM Sharif returns home after cardiac surgery

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—A spokesman says Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has returned home 48 days after he underwent cardiac surgery in London. Mohiuddin Wani says Sharif landed Saturday in his hometown of Lahore where he went straight to his rural compound to see his family. Details of the surgery involved or Sharif's original ailment were never disclosed. Sharif had left Pakistan among opposition calls that he resign because family members were named as holders of offshore bank accounts, according to documents leaked from the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca.

After days of limbo, Australian premier claims election win

SYDNEY (AP)—Australia's prime minister said on Sunday that his conservative coalition government was re-elected for a second three-year term, after a chaotic national election that left the country in a state of political paralysis for more than a week while officials scrambled to sort out who had won the tight race. Vote counting was still underway from the July 2 ballot, but Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said his conservative Liberal Party-led coalition had secured a victory, and that opposition leader Bill Shorten had called him earlier to congratulate him on being re-elected. "We have resolved this election," Turnbull told reporters.

Health & Fitness

COSTA MESA, Calif.—Kevin Levit works out in a Costa Mesa gym without any mirrors. It's a design feature that surprisingly allows him to see more clearly that he's becoming stronger and slimmer.

Instead of watching the reflection of his every move, Levit notices how his endurance has increased and how his clothes fit more loosely.

"If you see yourself every day in the mirror, you're only seeing the negative," said Levit, a 34-year-old bartender who belongs to Innovative Results. "People want to work out to feel better about themselves and you can't do that if you're always looking in the mirror and judging yourself."

Mirror-lined gym walls grew out of the 1970s bodybuilding movement, when lifters would watch themselves flex and pose. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

Academic studies have found that mirrors can diminish exercisers' sense of well-being and don't appreciably improve weightlifting form.

Thomas Plante, a psychology professor at Santa Clara University, published research in 2014 showing that exercising in front of a mirror increased tension levels among college students riding an indoor cycle compared with those pedaling without a mirror.

"If you're looking at yourself and thinking, 'Maybe I don't look as healthy or as fit or as good and there's somebody exercising next to me who is all glammed up or all fit,'" Plante said. "It just adds a level of stress to the average person that's just not needed."

Plante noted that people who score high for narcissism most enjoy working out in front of the mirror.

"We live in a selfie culture," Plante



Aubrie Pohl does pull ups during an active performance class at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

More gyms are going mirrorless to reduce self-criticism and improve the workout

By **COURTNEY PERKES**

The Orange County Register

said. "The fitness facilities and the gyms are going to appeal to that kind of narcissistic cultural trend.

"It also makes these facilities look

bigger," he said. "If you put mirrors all around, it looks like this big, vibrant facility."

At Levit's gym, the tall walls are

covered with large photos of outdoor activities such as surfing, snowboarding and hiking.

"Outdoors, there's no mirrors," said owner Aaron Guyett. "We want our clients to be able to get lost in play. When you were a kid and you played

on the playground, you weren't worried about what you looked like; you weren't worried about your form."

For rare occasions when a mirror would be helpful for precise adjustments for advanced kettlebell lifts, Guyett shoots video with his phone. He said his staff reflects back to clients how they look, without the critical filters that mirrors might trigger.

"That's what we get to do as coaches, is be those loving people and say, 'You're looking good. I can tell you're feeling better because you're smiling more,'" Guyett said. "The biggest component is mindset. If people are worried about looking fat, it's really going to hurt their performance and hurt their progress mentally."

For Eric Doyle, owner of Long Beach Kettlebell Club, mirrors are expensive, breakable and unnecessary with proper training.

"The type of training we do is very technical and position-based," Doyle said. "You should be able to go by the feel. If it's really described and shown correctly, I feel the mirrors aren't necessary."

Even some dance studios have gone mirrorless.

At Sheila Kelley S Factor pole dancing studios in Costa Mesa, Los Angeles and Encino, Calif., the lights are dim and candles provide a warm glow. Ashley Colón, an instructor at the Costa Mesa studio, said that when women dance without seeing themselves, they can express their sensuality while removing any suggestion of a performance.

"The lack of mirrors allows you to have a little bit more permission," she said. "It takes away the idea of voyeurism, where someone is watching. You can really get intimate with your body and how it works."

Colón said mirrors also distract from the workout.

"There's something that stops you from reaching your full potential, the full stretch or exertion of your body, when you add in a mirror. If you're looking at your body from a mirror's perspective, you're not really going to tap into the deeper muscles to tone and get fit."



Shweta Kaul, left, and others execute an exercise at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016.



Lu Liu, right, Shweta Kaul, and others execute an exercise at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016.

Life & Style

IHOP set to open doors to pancake heaven



JON PEREZ

IHOP serves more than just pancakes like this garden omelet with broccoli, mushrooms, and tomatoes.

By **JON PEREZ**

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The International House of Pancakes will soon start serving its all-day breakfast on Saipan giving local residents and tourists more choices for grub in the ever-growing restaurant industry on the island.

They are set to open soon with management making sure everything is in order before they start serving their world famous pancakes.

IHOP's entry may be considered pancake heaven for some of those who love munching the flat and fluffy round cakes topped with strawberries, blueberries, or bananas and whipped cream.

They had a test run yesterday where selected individuals and groups of people were invited to sample the menu that made them a household name for more than five decades now. "We want to see how our staff works before the actual opening," said general manager Michael T. Valencia.

Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan) and his family, Public School System Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, and former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. public information officer Brad Ruszala and his family

were among the lucky individuals that got the invite.

Valencia said the DineEquity Inc.-owned restaurant franchise is more than just your regular breakfast place as they also have other food items on their menu. "We also have burgers and other sandwiches, chicken, steak, pasta, and seafood."

"We also have salads for those who are on a diet and weight watchers," added Valencia. "But of course our main item on our all-day breakfast menu are pancakes, crepes, omelets, and French toast."

Original buttermilk, strawberry banana, blueberry, and New York cheesecake are some of the pancake flavors that you could order and partner it with either strips of bacon, sausages or hash brown for a combo.

"Although there were some minor mistakes, like mix up in some of the orders, overall it was good feedback especially to some of the local dignitaries that we invited. They were overwhelmed with the customer service they experienced and received," said Valencia.

"It was great to hear that from all the people who attended since we made a huge gamble in hiring

young and inexperienced staff. So far our gamble has paid off since they are friendly and they remember what they learned from their training," he added.

Several support staff from Guam and the Philippines were also here to provide backup and they would return to their respective branches once the Saipan location normalizes.

"We are also targeting those early joggers to eat breakfast here after they run since we open at 7am. And of course, families and friends since we give you the coziness of your home. Prices are also reasonable and worth it since we offer big servings."



JON PEREZ

The Ruszalas were among those early birds who earned the chance to taste IHOP's all-day breakfast menu.



IHOP's friendly staff will soon welcome you.

JON PEREZ

Thousands strip and paint themselves blue for UK art event

LONDON (AP)—Thousands of people have stripped naked and painted themselves in four shades of blue to celebrate the English city of Hull's relationship with the sea.

Hull City Council says some 3,200 people took part in the art installation, staged by New York

artist Spencer Tunick on Saturday. The work is called "Sea of Hull" and was commissioned by the Fereens Art Gallery to mark the city's celebration next year as the U.K. City of Culture.

Tunick says the resulting photos incorporate some of the city's unique

locations including the Scale Lane footbridge, a swing bridge often compared to a pin ball flipper that is a tourist attraction in the northern English city.

The port city on the Humber River has a rich maritime past dating to the 12th Century.



AP

People take part in an art installation entitled Sea of Hull by New York based artist Spencer Tunick in Hull, England, Saturday July 9, 2016.



JON PEREZ

Public School System Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan enjoys a cup of coffee as she waits for her order.

Alanis Morissette welcomes baby girl Onyx on social media

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Alanis Morissette is sharing pictures of her baby girl on social media.

The singer posted a photo of her new daughter on Twitter and Instagram Friday with the caption, "She's here!" and the hashtag "#BeyondBlessed."

The post says baby Onyx

Solace Morissette-Treadway was born June 23. This is the second child for Morissette and her husband, rapper Mario Treadway, who performs under the stage name Souleye. Their son, Ever, is 5.

On June 30, Morissette shared a photo of her naked, pregnant body underwater. She quoted her son in the cap-

tion, writing, "you have to be extra gentle around ladies because they are the most helpful people in the world 'cause they make persons."

In this Nov. 22, 2015, file photo, Souleye, left, and Alanis Morissette arrive at the American Music Awards in Los Angeles.



MILAN (AP)—Sophia Loren has been made an honorary citizen of Naples, the city that formed her and became the backdrop of many of her films.

Naples Mayor Luigi de Magistris honored 81-year-old Loren at a ceremony attended by 500 residents Saturday as the Neapolitan song "O sole mio" played.

Loren was wearing a black dress with a fuschia floral print and told the news agency ANSA that "I feel so much love."

De Magistris said on Twitter that Loren and Naples have "intertwined hearts."

Loren grew up near Naples, and her breakthrough role came in Vittorio De Sica's "The Gold of Naples,"

Sophia Loren becomes honorary citizen of Naples



Sophia Loren sits near a giant portrait of herself after being awarded with the honorary citizenship of Naples, Italy, Saturday, July 9, 2016.

in 1954. She once famously told an interviewer that "I am not Italian. I am Neapolitan. It's another thing!"

A gay Sulu enters 'Star Trek,' but Takei disapproves

NEW YORK (AP)—USS Enterprise helmsman Hikaru Sulu is portrayed as gay in "Star Trek Beyond," but George Takei, who originated the role, isn't pleased.

A scene in the upcoming film plainly presents Sulu, played by John Cho, with a male spouse raising an infant daughter. Cho told Australia's Herald Sun that he liked that the approach doesn't "make a big thing" out of it.

But Takei, who came out in 2005, called the decision "unfortunate." The 79-year-old

actor told The Hollywood Reporter that he didn't like the character being altered. Takei instead urged the filmmakers to create a new gay character.

Screenplay writer Simon Pegg and director Justin Lin say they intended to pay homage to Takei as an LGBT activist. In a statement Friday, Pegg said he "respectfully (disagreed)" with Takei.

In this July 7, 2016 file photo, actor John Cho arrives at the premier of "Star Trek Beyond" in Sydney, Australia.



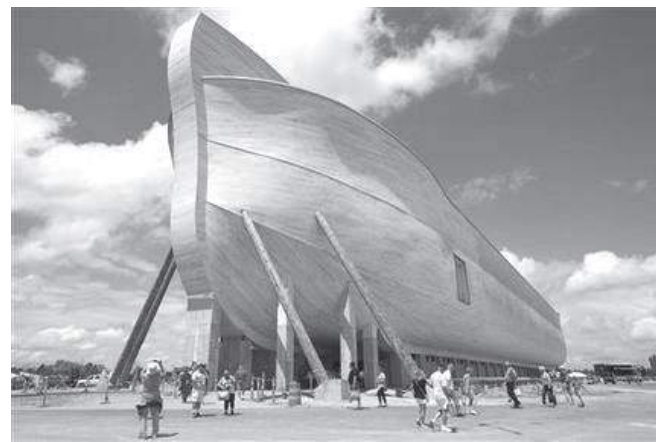
Bill Nye visits new Noah's ark attraction he criticized

WILLIAMSTOWN, Ky. (AP)—Bill Nye is touring a new Noah's Ark attraction in Kentucky that he has called a danger to the nation's science education.

Answers in Genesis president Ken Ham invited Nye, best known for his 1990s science TV show, to visit the Ark Encounter on Friday. The two became acquainted when they engaged in an online debate in 2014.

A statement from Answers in Genesis says Nye is touring the ark with his own film crew. The Christian group says the ark is part of its ministry that teaches Old Testament stories as true historical events.

After the 2014 debate, Nye



Visitors pass outside the front of a replica Noah's Ark at the Ark Encounter theme park during a media preview day, Tuesday, July 5, 2016, in Williamstown, Ky.

said he hoped the ark would never be built, because it would "indoctrinate children into this extraordinary and

outlandish, unscientific point of view."

The ark opened to the public Thursday.

Pizzeria with name similar to video game flooded with calls

LONG BRANCH, N.J. (AP)—A family-owned pizzeria in New Jersey has become inundated with calls from around the country asking if the restaurant inspired the setting for a popular online video game.

Freddie's Restaurant and Pizzeria, in Long Branch, has received thousands of calls over the past year from people asking if it's Freddy's Fazbear

Pizza, the setting for the video game Five Nights at Freddy's, the Asbury Park Press (<http://on.app.com/29AMgag>) reported.

In the horror video game, the player is a security guard attacked by animatronic robots.

A Freddie's employee said the restaurant has added phone lines and shifted workers around

to handle incoming calls. Regular customers have experienced difficulties getting through and placing their orders.

"I've never seen anything like this," said Edna Moore, a waitress who has worked at Freddie's for 34 years. "You can get 200 calls in an hour. It's very annoying. You try to do your job, and you keep picking the phone up."

Child's crying is driving neighbor to distraction

DEAR ABBY: I live in a beautiful apartment in the perfect location and have been here for three years. This past year my neighbors had a second baby. This child cries constantly during all hours of the night and most of the day. I hear the wailing and the parents yelling and slamming doors when they are frustrated.

I thought as the child got a little older it would get better, but it hasn't. He's now 1 1/2 and still crying constantly. I'm stressed out and losing sleep because of the constant commotion.

In the beginning, the parents were tolerant of their child, and I didn't complain because I didn't want to stress them out. Now I feel stuck. Should I complain directly to them, contact the building manager or just make arrangements to move?

I feel like a terrible person to complain. We must give young children and parents some leeway, but this isn't their first child, and I worry that something more is going on. I love this place, but I cannot continue like this! Please help me. I'm losing my sanity and goodwill toward children.

LOSING MY SANITY

DEAR LOSING: It's possible that something is wrong with the child. Talk to the building manager, explain the problem, and say that a year and a half of the racket is

enough. You may learn that you are not the only tenant bothered by the constant crying and door-slamming.

If the problem can't be corrected, contact a lawyer and check to see if you have grounds to break your lease and get out of there. You have a right to the quiet enjoyment of your home. You have my sympathy.

DEAR ABBY: Recently the news has been filled with stories of tragedy and heartache. So many innocent lives have been taken that it has proven to be challenging to process. Although I haven't personally known anyone affected in these events, I feel the weight of grief on my heart.

I know I'm not the only person who is confused about how to manage their emotions after national tragedies. Do you have any suggestions as to what to do during times like these?

WANTING TO HEAL IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WANTING: Yes. But first, let me suggest what NOT to do. Do not remain glued to your television or computer screen taking in every graphic detail that invariably follows the announcement. Ration the input, and the "poison" will affect you less.

Talk about your feelings with friends and/or family rather

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

than bottling them up and letting them fester. And if it will make you feel less helpless, donate some money to the families who have been affected by these tragedies to help with funeral or other unexpected expenses. While it won't fix their heartache—or yours—it will let them know that others care.

If it won't depress you further, participate in community rallies, vigils or other organized events to show support. This, too, can help.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



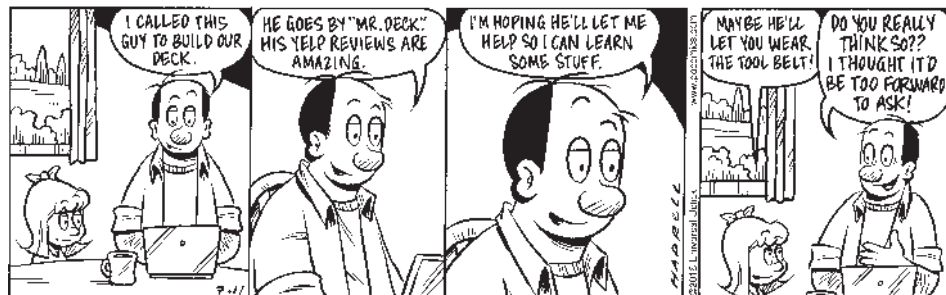
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sphere
4 Sit-up targets
7 "Climb — Mountain"
11 Gridlock sound
13 Oom- —
14 Staffer
15 Autobahn auto
16 "It's c-c-cold!"
17 Get lippy
18 English county
20 Booked solid
22 Be sick
24 "Batman" setting
28 Spring flowers
32 France's longest river
33 "Got it!"
34 Sticky stuff
36 Bartlett, for one
37 Set — (try to catch)
39 Aspiring
41 Restaurant fan
43 Opposite of "post-"

DOWN

1 Reed instrument
2 Agents, for short
3 Honey bunch?
4 LAPD alert
5 Biting remark
6 Unspo-ken "I dunno"
7 Laid-back
8 By way of
9 Hwys.
10 "Of course!"
12 "Let me know!"
19 Noon, on a sundial

21 Scale member
23 Table support
25 Wasted no time
26 Basra resident
27 Simple
28 Chan-teuse Edith
29 Regarding
30 Infamous emperor
31 Plant seeds
35 "Alley —"
38 Picnic dessert
40 Coffee vessel
42 Pharaoh's land
45 Sleek, in car lingo
47 "I did it!"
48 Not naked
49 Bottom lines?
50 Beer barrel
51 Nest egg acronym
52 Method
54 Dazzle

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 7-11

P	A	B	L	O	R	E	T	B	A	A
O	N	E	A	M	E	R	A	A	I	R
S	T	A	L	E	T	H	J	S	T	M
T	A	N	G	S	O	K	H	A	N	
A	B	S	S	R	O	P	I	E	A	
M	A	M	E	A	I	P	E	N		
C	R	E	S	T	S	R	J	N	W	A
K	A	P	P	A	Y	O	Y	C		
N	A	D	I	R	A	D	S	E	E	N
E	L	E	M	S	C	A	M	P	I	
A	I	O	F	M	F	O	I	S	E	V
T	E	E	O	U	R	C	A	M	E	O
O	N	S	P	I	G	S	K	N	E	E

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jacob Jones, 32; Lil' Kim, 42; Richie Sambora, 57; Sela Ward, 60.

Happy Birthday: Don't stop now. Make up your mind and move forward. Uncertainty and procrastination will keep you from reaching your goals. Don't fear change when you should be embracing life and trying new things. An open-minded and curious attitude will lead to knowledge that will help you use your intelligence and your past experience to be productive and prosperous. Your numbers are 9, 15, 18, 23, 32, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotions will surface and could ruin your day if you aren't prepared to take a deep breath and ignore what's going on around you. Put more time and effort into self-discipline, saving money and making personal changes. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make an effort to help the underdog. Your efforts will pay off as long as you offer suggestions rather than a donation. A job opportunity will depend on how well you get along with your colleagues. Romance and family fun are encouraged. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider an offer carefully. Someone is likely to try to interest you in something that will leave you in a precarious position. Don't be enticed by false advertising. Express your feelings and keep on moving. Avoid indulgence and waste. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Open up about the way you feel and what you would like to see happen. Your input will

make a difference to the outcome of a situation. You cannot progress if you don't acknowledge the need for change. Romance is encouraged. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep personal information a secret. Sharing too much will put you in a vulnerable position that will make you angry. Concentrate on personal gains and finding interesting ways to use your skills. A professional change will increase your earning potential. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Consider what you have to offer and you will find a way to utilize your strengths and experiences to the best of your ability. What you accomplish will draw recognition and an unexpected opportunity. Plan a romantic adventure. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do what pleases you, because you may have trouble trying to please others. Don't fight a losing battle. Bring about the changes that will stabilize your life and keep you moving in a positive direction. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get into the groove and speak your mind. Take on something unusual. The more imaginative you are, the easier it will be to reach your goals. Planning a romantic getaway will encourage an improved relationship with someone special. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your plans simple and doable. If you reach for the impossible, you will lose momentum. Don't give in to lofty ideas that are likely to help someone else get ahead instead of you. Initiate personal changes. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Avoid emotional conversations. Do your best to stick to facts, and refuse to entertain someone who is blowing situations out of proportion. Review contracts and agreements and you'll resolve pending concerns. Encourage someone you love. **



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Turn an idea into a reality. Hard work will be rewarded. You can bring about positive changes where money, legal matters and health issues are concerned. Take action based on the way you feel and you will get what you want. *****



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take advantage of what comes your way. A financial opportunity will encourage you to pursue something you've always wanted to do. Romance will improve a personal relationship. Children will play a role in a decision you need to make. ***

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, curious and insightful. You are open, honest and caring.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	8	1			6	4		3
				9			6	1
					2			
	5		2			1	4	6
	9			7			5	
4	3	2			5		7	
			4					
3	1			8				
6		7	9			5	1	

Difficulty Level ★

7/11

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

7	4	6	8	1	3	5	9	2
1	3	2	5	6	9	7	8	4
5	8	9	7	2	4	3	6	1
3	2	1	6	7	5	8	4	9
8	9	7	2	4	1	6	5	3
6	5	4	9	3	8	1	2	7
4	6	3	1	5	2	9	7	8
2	7	8	3	9	6	4	1	5
9	1	5	4	8	7	2	3	6

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

7/11

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

Solution: 9 letters

A P H L S E G A P H R A S E S
L B L L A P O R T W O O D T E
P A B U L I E C I T E N O H P
H R N R R E R E R E C O R D C O Y
A S I G E A P E N I L N O U T
B I I N U V L S S Y E I M S Y
E M A T T A I D R W A G P A T
T P T O I N G A R D R I O N I
I S O D G R L E T S N R U D S
C O O U A U B Y N I K O N S R
A N L M B C K R T O E D E E
L A M A N I G E L I R N Y R V
R A C U T C A P M O C I S I I
R O O Y L R A L O H C S E E N
V N O I S S E R P X E G A S U

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7/11

Abbreviations, Alphabetical, Book, British, Compact, Compound, Dialect, Entries, Expression, Grammar, Key-in, Language, Learn, Lyrics, Nigal, Noun, Online, Origin, Pages, Phonetic, Phrases, Plural, Portwood, Print, Record, Scholarly, Serial, Series, Simpson, Singular, Spell, Thousand, Tool, Type, University, Usage, Vocabulary

Last Thursday's Answer: Isaac Newton

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Send CV to Rota Terminal, Box, 914,
Rota, MP 96951

Verification of qualifications required.

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School
Is requesting applicants for:**ACCOUNTANT/BUSINESS MANAGER (1)**

- Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;
- Minimum 5 years experience in a managerial capacity;
- Bachelor's degree in accounting;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR:

- Minimum two years of general maintenance experience and supervision.
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical, building construction, and general maintenance.
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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Salty Saipan Corporation**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****General Maintenance**

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school graduate; Seven (7) years of paid experience as a General Building Structure Maintenance worker in position(s) requiring knowledge of rough and finish carpentry, plumbing, interior and exterior painting and electrician skills; three (3) years of experience as a commercial cleaner, preferably in hotel, lodge or single structure housekeeping setting(s). Experience with use of pesticides and fertilizers and how to avoid the hazardous affect of common chemicals used for building maintenance and repair.

DUTIES: Ensures that a newly constructed building structure and its surrounding area are maintained in a clean and orderly condition and good repair. Cleans rooms and yard areas; strips and applies wax to floors; shampoos carpets; washes and paints interior and exterior walls; diagnoses and cures building plumbing, electrical and carpentry repair needs. Assesses and completes laundry needs. Operates water blaster and bush whacker.

Interested applicants may send resume to
herenuisong@gmail.com

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

(This notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC)

**Program Year 2016 Annual Action Plan
July 11, 2016**

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) would like to announce that the Program Year 2016 Annual Action Plan is available for the public's review and comments. The Action Plan encompasses applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program in the Commonwealth.

The Annual Action Plan is available for public review and inspection during our regular business hours from Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for CNMI holidays at the NMHC Central Office and the field offices on Tinian and Rota. You may also visit the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net. Comments may be submitted to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Tinian Field Office located in San Jose Village, and the Rota Field Office located in Songsong Village, or you may email your comments to nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp (please indicate in the subject line "PY16 AP Comment". The comment period will end on August 10, 2016, no later than 4:30 p.m. Individuals needing special accommodations to review and comment on the plan must contact the Planning Division for arrangements by calling (670) 234-7689/6866 during regular business hours.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

(This notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC)

**Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2019
NMHC Consolidated Plan and Program Year 2015
Annual Action Plan
July 11, 2016**

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) would like to inform the general public that the NMHC will be amending the 2015-2019 NMHC Consolidated Plan and the Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan for the Commonwealth to include the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program. The HTF program goals are to increase and preserve the supply of rental housing for extremely low-income families, including homeless families, and to increase homeownership for extremely low-income and very low-income families.

The HTF Program Plan is available for public review and inspection during our regular business hours from Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for CNMI holidays at the NMHC Central Office at the field offices on Tinian and Rota. You may also visit the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net. Comments may be submitted to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Tinian Field Office located in San Jose Village, and the Rota Field Office located in Songsong Village, or you may email your comments to nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp (please indicate in the subject line "HTF Plan Comment". The comment period will end on August 10, 2016, no later than 4:30 p.m. Individuals needing special accommodations to review and comment on the plan must contact the Planning Division for arrangements by calling (670) 234-7689/6866 during regular business hours.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

**MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
 - a. Regular Board Meeting – April 26, 2016
- 2) Public Comments**
- 3) Committee Reports**
 1. Finance
 2. Personnel
 - a. Pay Schedule Update Proposal
- 4) New Business**
 1. Election of New Officers
 2. Contract Renewal – Safety Tips Video, KMCV
 3. Japan Arrival Support Coupon Campaign Extension
- 5) Old Business**
 1. Tourist Exit Survey Research Committee
 2. Email Poll Ratification
 - a. PDM Architecture, Engineering & Landscaping Design Services
 - b. Compensation for Acting Managing Director
 - c. Destination Enhancement
 1. Beach Road Pathway Lights – Additional Funding
 2. Architect and Engineering Services
 3. Sugar King Park Improvement Project
- 6) Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 7) Executive Session**
- 8) Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

SAIPAN CREWBOATS, INC.**CITIZEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Almost every job now held by an alien in Commonwealth will soon be available to qualified U.S. Citizen. Jobs currently held by foreign workers will require a new federal permit. The new federal transitional worker program will require employers to hire available qualified U.S. Citizen or green card holders before hiring or re-hiring alien transitional workers.

Therefore, our company is inviting interested U.S. Citizens, U.S. Green Card holders and FAS work authorized citizens with 2 years ship repair experience to apply for employment with us.

Our job categories include but are not limited to:

One (1) Marine Engineer
One (1) Marine Mechanic
One (1) Maintenance

We are equal opportunity employer and comply with all CNMI laws relevant to employment. All qualified candidates will receive serious consideration.

Apply by mail only to:

Saipan Crewboats Inc.
Attention: Michelle Hamilton
PMB 170 PPP Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950

SAIPAN MARINE CORP.**CITIZEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Almost every job now held by an alien in Commonwealth will soon be available to qualified U.S. Citizen. Jobs currently held by foreign workers will require a new federal permit. The new federal transitional worker program will require employers to hire available qualified U.S. Citizen or green card holders before hiring or re-hiring alien transitional workers.

Therefore, our company is inviting interested U.S. Citizens, U.S. Green Card holders and FAS work authorized citizens with 2 years Ship repair experience to apply for employment with us.

Our job categories include but are not limited to:

1 – Maintenance

We are equal opportunity employer and comply with all CNMI laws relevant to employment. All qualified candidates will receive serious consideration.

Apply by mail only to:

Saipan Marine Corp.
Attention: Michelle Hamilton
PMB 170 PPP Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950

SEABRIDGE INC.**CITIZEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Almost every job now held by an alien in Commonwealth will soon be available to qualified U.S. Citizen. Jobs currently held by foreign workers will require a new federal permit. The new federal transitional worker program will require employers to hire available qualified U.S. Citizen or green card holders before hiring or re-hiring alien transitional workers.

Therefore, our company is inviting interested U.S. Citizens, U.S. Green Card holders and FAS work authorized citizens with 2 years Ship repair experience to apply for employment with us.

Our job categories include but are not limited to:

One (1) Welder
One (1) Marine Mechanic

We are equal opportunity employer and comply with all CNMI laws relevant to employment. All qualified candidates will receive serious consideration.

Apply by mail only to:

Seabridge Inc.
Attention: Michelle Hamilton
PMB 170 PPP Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950

Serena wins record-tying 22nd Grand Slam title

LONDON (AP)—Serena Williams insisted she was not focused on No. 22.

Said she wouldn't discuss it. Kept coming close without quite getting it.

Now she finally has it. And so she can flaunt it.

Williams lifted both arms overhead and raised two fingers on each hand right there on Centre Court to show off the magic number after winning her record-tying 22nd Grand Slam title by beating Angelique Kerber 7-5, 6-3 in the Wimbledon final on Saturday.

"Definitely had some sleepless nights, if I'm just honest, with a lot of stuff," Williams said. "My goal is to win always at least a Slam a year. It was getting down to the pressure."

She pulled even with Steffi Graf for the most major championships in the Open era, which began in 1968. Now Williams stands behind only Margaret Court's all-time mark of 24.

This was Williams' seventh singles trophy at the All England Club—only Martina Navratilova, with nine, has more in the Open era—and second in a row. The victory at Wimbledon a year ago raised her Grand Slam count to 21, where it remained until Saturday.

"It's been incredibly difficult not to think about it. I had a couple of tries this year," said Williams, who went back on court a few hours later to win the doubles title with older sister Venus. "But it makes the victory even sweeter to know how hard I worked for it."

There was a stunning loss to Roberta Vinci in the U.S. Open semifinals in September, ending Williams' bid for a calendar-year Grand Slam. Then losses in finals to Kerber at the Australian Open, and to Garbine Muguruza at the French Open.

"Time heals," said Williams' coach, Patrick Mouratoglou. "By losing, you realize things."

In the rematch against the fourth-seeded Kerber—the first time in a decade two women met to decide multiple major titles in a single season—the No. 1-ranked Williams came through. This goes alongside six championships at the U.S. Open, six at the Australian Open and three at the French Open.

The 34-year-old American did it, as she often does, with nearly impeccable serving. She slammed 13 aces. She won 38 of 43 first-serve points. She faced just one break point—at 3-all in the second set, representing Kerber's only



real opening—and shut the door emphatically with aces at 117 mph and 124 mph.

There was more that Williams did well, though. Much more. Facing the left-handed Kerber's reactive, counter-punching style, Williams dictated exchanges and compiled a 39-12 edge in winners.

Williams hammered second serves that floated in at

75 mph, breaking once in each set. She volleyed well, too, winning the point on 16 of 22 trips to the net, including a tap-in on match point. Soon, she was wrapping Kerber in a warm embrace, then holding up those fingers to symbolize "22."

"I was trying everything,

but she deserved it today. She really played an unbelievable match," said Kerber, who hadn't appeared in a major final until beating Williams in Melbourne. "I think we both (played) on a really high level."

Kerber, a German who

knows Graf well, defeated Venus in the semifinals and hadn't dropped a set until Saturday. But she could not keep up with the trophy on the line, although it was a high-quality final that was tighter than the scoreline might indicate.

"Played a good match," Kerber said. "That makes it a little easier for me."

Later Saturday, Williams



Murray's return takes on Raonic's serve in finals

LONDON (AP)—Milos Raonic is as good a server as there is in tennis nowadays.

Andy Murray is one of the top returners.

How that matchup plays out in the Wimbledon final Sunday could go a long way toward determining who wins the championship.

The sixth-seeded Raonic heads into the first Grand Slam title match of his career—and the first for a man representing Canada—having won 116 of his 121 service games (96 percent) across six matches.

"Obviously," said Murray, the 2013 Wimbledon champion, "Milos has got a fantastic serve."

Raonic, who added John McEnroe to his coaching staff ahead of the grass-court portion of this season, has hit 154 aces, averaging 25½ per match. He's faced only 27 break points, saving 22.

In his five-set victory over Roger Federer in the semifinals, Raonic saved 8 of 9 break points.

Not only did the 6-foot-5 Raonic repeatedly top 140 mph in that match, he went as high as 144 mph more than

once, and his average first serve of 129 mph was faster than Federer's best offering of 126 mph.

Raonic's serve is speedy and scary, to be sure—British Davis Cup captain Leon Smith called it "ginormous"—but it is also much more than that.

One reason it's so effective is because of his ability to alter velocity and placement.

Against Federer, he would boom one right at the body at upward of 135 mph - emanating a thud that reverberated around Centre Court—then hit an ace out wide at 115 mph that sent up a spray of chalk when it hit a line.

"You don't get in a rhythm," said Sam Querrey, the American who lost to Raonic in the quarterfinals after beating No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the third round. "You go games on his serve where you might get one return in play."

Don't count on that happening too often against Murray.

Take out players who didn't make it past the second round this fortnight, and the second-seeded Murray ranks No. 1

in: percentage of returns put in play, 77; percentage of second-serve points won, 64; and percentage of return games won, 36.

Murray—a two-time major champion, most famously becoming the first British man to win Wimbledon in 77 years—has won his past five matchups against Raonic. Just three weeks ago, Murray won their meeting in the final of the Queen's Club grass-court tournament. Murray dropped the first set, then trailed 3-0 in the second, before beginning the turnaround with a return winner.

"It helps to have played a match against him on the grass," Murray said. "You know, see some of the things he's doing on this surface a little bit differently."

For Murray, this will be the 11th Grand Slam final of his career—and third of this year—but first against someone other than Djokovic or Federer.

Raonic was asked what sort of a boost his debut in a major final might be for Canadian tennis.

"It's great to sort of be at the center and front of that

AP
Serena Williams of the U.S. returns to Angelique Kerber of Germany during the women's singles final on Day 13 of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Saturday, July 9, 2016.

earned a second piece of hardware when she and Venus defeated Timea Babos and Yaroslava Shvedova 6-3, 6-4 for their sixth doubles trophy at Wimbledon and 14th from all majors.

In singles, Williams got better as the tournament went along, taking the last 12 sets she played after dropping a tiebreaker to open her second-round match against Christina McHale. After that set, Williams smashed her racket and flung it away, drawing a \$10,000 fine.

There had been some thought that Williams was really stung by her loss to Vinci in New York, that it was too big a disappointment to push aside and lingered, somehow, when she followed with the setbacks against Kerber and Muguruza.

"If anything, I was able to show resilience that, no, that's not going to shake me, you're not going to break me," Williams said, "it's going to make me stronger."

So, Williams was asked Saturday, is she already thinking about No. 25, to surpass Court?

"Oh, God, no," Williams said. "One thing I learned about last year is to enjoy the moment. I'm definitely going to enjoy this."

Meanwhile, One title was not enough for Serena.

Hours after capturing her 22nd Grand Slam singles title, the world No. 1 took to Centre Court again, capturing a sixth Wimbledon doubles title with her older sister, Venus.

The Williams sisters, who entered the tournament unseeded, downed fifth-seeded Timea Babos and Yaroslava Shvedova 6-3, 6-4.

The duo dominated on serve and broke their opponents three times to win the match. Despite it being her second match of the day, Serena Williams was determined to bring home another title for her older sister and she did not disappoint.

Though the accomplishment is remarkable, Serena is not even the first in her family to capture two Wimbledon titles on the same day. Sixteen years ago, her older sister achieved the same feat at the All England Club.

The sisters have been playing doubles in preparation for the upcoming Olympics. They won gold in 2012 and 2008.

McCann's RBI double helps Yanks nip Indians



CLEVELAND
(AP)—Aroldis

Chapman admitted he was a little tired following Saturday's 7-6 win over the Cleveland Indians.

Chapman (3-0) struck out four in the final 2 1/3 innings and Brian McCann's RBI double with two outs in the 11th gave New York its second win in three days over the AL Central-leading Indians.

Chapman, after recording four outs in the ninth and 10th, came out for one more inning after McCann's clutch hit.

"I was trying to save energy because the game was tied in case I was going to have to go out again," Chapman said through a translator. "This is a huge win for us."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi said Chapman wouldn't have pitched the 11th had the game remained tied.

"We had to use the 'pen hard," Girardi said. "We've got time off coming so I was willing to do it."

All-Star Carlos Beltran, who was 3 for 6, started the winning rally off Tommy Hunter (2-2) with a two-out single. McCann's line drive hit on the track in right field and bounced over the head of Abraham Almonte, scoring pinch-runner Ronald Torreyes.

McCann was also 3 for 6.

Brett Gardner gave New York a 6-5 lead in the sixth with a three-run triple. Jose Ramirez, driving in his third run, singled with two out in the seventh off Dellin Betances to even the game.

Pirates 12, Cubs 5

In Pittsburgh, Josh Bell hit a grand slam in his second major-league at bat, and the Pirates beat the slumping Chicago Cubs.

Bell drove a 1-1 pitch from Adam Warren (3-2) over the seats above the 21-foot wall in right for his second pinch hit in two games since being recalled from Triple-A on Friday.

Nationals 6, Mets 1

In New York, Daniel Murphy homered for the sixth time this year against his former team, powering Max Scherzer and the Nationals to the win.

The NL East leaders opened a five-game lead on the Mets.

Tigers 3, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Victor Martinez hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning, and Detroit stopped Toronto's seven-game winning streak.

Justin Upton had two hits and Andrew Romine reached three times for the Tigers, who had lost seven of their previous nine against the Blue Jays.

Orioles 3, Angels 2



Cleveland Indians' Carlos Santana, left, is tagged out at home plate by New York Yankees' Brian McCann (34) during the third inning of a baseball game Saturday, July 9, 2016, in Cleveland. AP

In Baltimore, Jonathan Schoop scored the tying run on a seventh-inning balk and delivered the decisive RBI single in the eighth, leading Baltimore to the win.

The victory assured the Orioles sole possession of first place in the AL East at the All-Star break, which begins after the conclusion of Sunday's schedule.

Cardinals 8, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Jhonny Peralta, Tommy Pham and Aledmys Diaz homered, powering the Cardinals to the road win.

Peralta hit a leadoff drive in the second off Chase Anderson (4-10). Pham connected for a solo shot and Diaz belted a three-run homer during the Cardinals' five-run ninth.

Dodgers 4, Padres 3

In Los Angeles, Dodgers right-hander Brandon McCarthy won his second straight start after a 14-month recovery from Tommy John surgery.

McCarthy (2-0) gave up three runs in five innings, including a two-run homer by Yangervis Solarte in the first.

Rockies 8, Phillies 3

In Denver, Tyler Anderson homered and earned his first big league win, leading Colorado to the victory.

Anderson (1-3) allowed two runs in six innings. He singled for his first big league hit and homered for his second.

Red Sox 4, Rays 1

In Boston, Rick Porcello pitched seven innings to

remain unbeaten in his Fenway Park starts this season, and the Red Sox sent the Rays to their fifth straight loss.

On a day the Red Sox learned they lost closer Craig Kimbrel to a left knee injury for likely three to six weeks, they won for the fifth time in six games.

White Sox 5, Braves 4

In Chicago, Todd Frazier hit his 25th homer for the White Sox, and Jose Quintana bested Julio Teheran in the majors' first all-Colombian pitching matchup.

Frazier, who will go for his second straight Home Run Derby title Monday, hit a two-run shot in the second and an RBI double in Chicago's three-run third.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 2

In San Francisco, Brandon Belt had an RBI triple, Grant Green homered for the first time this season and San Francisco got a big lift from its bullpen.

Angel Pagan added two hits and Ruben Tejada doubled in a run for the Giants, who have won seven of nine and are a major league-best 56-33.

Royals 5, Mariners 3

In Kansas City, Salvador Perez homered and made a key pickoff throw to help Kansas City to the win.

Perez hit a solo drive off the foul pole in the seventh

inning that gave the Royals a two-run lead.

Athletics 3, Astros 2

In Houston Kendall Graveman pitched eight-plus innings for Oakland, and Stephen Vogt had three hits, including a homer.

Vogt hit a solo drive in the second and an RBI single in the third.

Marlins 4, Reds 2

In Miami, Martin Prado had three hits, including a double that put Miami ahead to stay.

Prado hiked his average to .323 and capped a rally in the fifth inning with a two-out, two-run double that right fielder Jay Bruce misjudged. J.T. Realmuto had two hits and scored three times.

Harden signs 4-year, \$118M extension with Rockets



HOUSTON (AP)—James Harden wants to leave his mark in Houston and bring the Rockets their first championship since they won back-to-back titles in 1994-95.

Now the star will have at least four more seasons to try and do just that.

"That's one of the reasons why I wanted to lock in for these next four years, so I could focus on my legacy and focus on winning and doing unbelievable things here that haven't been done in a long time," Harden said.

Harden signed a four-year, \$118 million contract extension with the Rockets on Saturday. He was scheduled to become an unrestricted free agent after the 2017-18 season.

The new deal takes the place of the last two years of his previous contract and will keep him in Houston until 2020.

He said the decision to extend his time in Houston was an easy one.

"You just feel it," he said. "Sometimes you just get that feeling where everything feels comfortable, you feel loved, you feel like people want you to be here and that feeling outweighs anything. So the ultimate decision was to stay and get it done."

The move comes after a frustrating season for the Rockets, who were ousted by Golden State in the first round of the playoffs after reaching the Western Conference finals a year ago in a season when Harden came in second in MVP voting. They fired

Kevin McHale after a 4-7 start and interim coach J.B. Bickerstaff went 37-34 after his dismissal.

Team owner Leslie Alexander beamed as he sat next to the bearded star and announced the big move.

"I don't think people appreciate how great he is," Alexander said, "but we certainly do."

Also on Saturday, the Rockets introduced new free agent signings Ryan Anderson and Eric Gordon.

Harden has morphed from a role player into one of the league's elites since joining the Rockets in a trade with Oklahoma City in 2012. He's made the All-Star game and taken the Rockets to the playoffs in each of his four seasons in Houston, and was voted to the All-NBA team three times.

The Rockets are looking for a fresh start this year under new coach Mike D'Antoni and without center Dwight Howard, who recently left Houston to sign with the Hawks.

"Dwight made his decision in free agency," general manager Daryl Morey said. "Now we're building a new core with James here for a long time and all these guys signed for a long time. Everyone can just focus on basketball and everyone can focus on winning."

Harden finished last season averaging career highs in points (29), rebounds (6.1) and assists (7.5).

"Last year wasn't a great year for me. But that won't happen again," he said. "That's one thing about being great. You don't make the

same mistakes twice."

He has slowly grown to embrace his role as the face and backbone of this team over the last four seasons, and believes the trials of last year will end up helping him in the future.

"Leaders aren't built when things are going extremely well," Harden said. "So I had to learn from it. How can I be better individually and grasp my team and bring us a lot closer? I learned from last year and I think that's why I'm more excited about this year because I've learned so much, and I'm able to go in with an open mind ... and learn how to bring guys with me."

This year he'll do it with Anderson and Gordon, two players Morey has long coveted but wasn't able to snag.

France seeks healing victory vs underachiever Portugal

SAINT-DENIS, France (AP)—France puts its formidable record in finals on the line when the European Championship hosts try to deny Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal a first major football title on Sunday.

French players have lifted the trophy in three of four finals over 32 years: Euro

'84 and the 1998 World Cup on home soil, as well as Euro 2000.

A nation still scarred by last year's terror attacks will seek sporting salvation from its football heroes and a chance to party again in the streets of Paris, where security has been intense during the tournament.

French law enforcement au-

thorities pledged "extremely high" security in Paris for Sunday's final, with thousands of police patrolling as hundreds of thousands of fans mass in the French capital.

Security forces have three key venues to protect: The Stade de France stadium hosting

the final—outside of which three suicide bombers blew themselves up last year, the 92,000-capacity fan zone in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower, and the Champs-Elysees boulevard, which will likely be swamped with fans after the match.

Mathias Vicherat, the Paris

Mayor's chief of staff, said some 1,900 police and other security officers would patrol the fan zone, while the city's police chief, Michel Cadot, said 3,400 officers would patrol the Champs-Elysees, some of them redeployed from the stadium and fan zone after the final kicks off.

Portugal's most famous

player since Eusebio warned the French not to underestimate Portugal.

"They are, in my opinion, favorites because they are playing at home and that's a big advantage," Ronaldo said. "The whole country is going to support them, but ... we're going to be difficult to beat."

MegaByte gets 3rd straight title in Crime Stoppers softball

MegaByte went undefeated and beat 12 teams in the 14th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Fundraising Tournament double elimination contest held late last month.

MegaByte won their third consecutive championship. The three-time champion MegaByte and co-ed teams representing IP&E, Marianas Variety, Best Sunshine, Brabu Pharmacy, T-Galleria, Pacific Islands Club, MARPAC, Bridge Capital, Pacific Amusement DOCOMO, and Mariana Resort and Spa fought hard on the Capitol Hill Softball Field for bragging rights and to have its name placed on the perpetual TOM and JERRY four-foot trophy.

Although all the games were competitive, IP&E was the team that overcame an early loss and continued to pull through, losing in the first round before fighting back and coming from behind to beat Bridge Capital and get into the semifinals. IP&E then came back from a sizable deficit against MARPAC to tie the ball game in the seventh inning and send it to the only extra innings game of the tournament. Although IP&E lost



MegaByte players pose with their championship trophy and are joined for a group photo by organizers of the 14th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Fundraising Tournament held last month at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

the effort to MARPAC, this game was the highlight of the tournament.

Tom Blas (former Crime Stoppers coordinator) and Jerry Ayuyu from DPS worked together with the NMI board of directors to create this fantastic event 14 years ago. This event not only showcases some of the best softball talents NMI has to offer, but also provides opportunities for businesses to get together and have a weekend of camara-

derie and fun—all for a great cause.

The NMI Crime Stoppers program was founded in 1989 and works with Law Enforcement (local and federal), the media and the community to help prevent and solve crime. The NMI CS program takes tips on crime anonymously in three ways;

- Phone 234 7272 (PARA -which means stop in Chamorro),
- Website - www.nmicrimestoppers.net

(click on submit a tip)

■ APP on Android or Apple phones called TIP SUBMIT. (you can download this APP for free and submit tips along with photos over the WEB securely)

All these methods are designed to prevent the identity of the "tipster" from ever being known. This eliminates any fear of reprisal, the need to go to court or speak to law

round and went on to use his much superior grappling skills coupled with strong kicks to slow down Fitial and eventually win their third meeting via the judges' scorecards. Martinez (10-4-1) and Fitial (10-8-2) settled for a draw in their first heavyweight encounter in January 2011.

In the welterweight bout between Camacho and Han Seul Kim, the Korean leaned on his long arms and legs to record a TKO victory over the former in the first round.

The 6-foot-1 Kim set up the Round 1 victory by kicking the 5-foot-9 Camacho on the face and peppering him with successive punches, forcing referee Jacob Guerrero to step into the action and end the fight. Before bowing to Kim, Camacho managed to connect a right hook that shook off Kim, but the Korean recovered on route to improving his MMA record to 8-3 and extending his winning streak to four. Camacho fell to an 18-4 mark.

'PIKABOO'

From Page 28

right back. It was quite even in the first round but I was able to defend all his takedown attempts and land shots off the clinch," the CNMI pride said.

Though he held his ground against Urrutia in the first round, there was one scary moment for Alvarez in the opening five minutes of their bout.

"He did catch me with one good punch that wobbled my legs a little bit. I wobbled for a split second but came right back with a flurry where most of my punches connected. It was a really good first round," the 22-year-old fighter said.

The quality punches he unleashed gave Alvarez more confidence to finish Urrutia in the second round.

"I was feeling super good going into the second round and I could see Emilio starting to breathe quite heavy, so I said to myself, 'now is the time to push the pace.' I came into the second round just like

the first, landing big shots when I was able and throwing lots of jabs to keep him guessing. Also I landed three front kicks to the stomach that I'm sure took his breath away for a few seconds," the son of Trench Tech founder Cuki Alvarez added.

The younger Alvarez was on a zone that Urrutia nearly lost his mouthpiece after receiving punishment from the former.

"I was starting to really get my range and I threw a big left hook which connected at the back of his jaw and rocked him. His eyes were shaky and his mouthpiece almost came out, I knew it was time to explode. I came in with another big hook and he went for the takedown which I stuffed and almost sunk in a guillotine. He slipped out but I got to mount, then got his back for a few minutes, and eventually sunk in the rear-naked choke to get the win," Alvarez said.

Despite topping Urrutia, Alvarez still gave credit to his

opponent.

"Emilio is a really tough guy that could take big shots. I hit him a good amount of times and he was taking them quite well. I knew I had a lot of gas in my tank though so I wasn't worried," the bantamweight fighter said.

Camacho, Fitial lose

Alvarez's win in PXC 54 gave CNMI MMA fans something to cheer about after Frank "The Crank" Camacho and Kelvin "The Big" Hit Fitial dropped their respective bouts.

Fitial lost his bloody rematch against Guam's Roque Martinez via unanimous decision, allowing the latter to avenge his defeat at the hands of the former in PXC 24 five years ago.

Fitial was the aggressor early on, landing heavy jabs and kicks on Martinez's face. The Guam fighter went on to sustain a cut above his left eye after Fitial unloaded more shots late in the opening round. Martinez survived the first

enforcement. The technology used allow a great amount of information to be obtained and at the same time "sanitizes" the information to exclude name, sex, race, or other information that might identify a caller before it is sent to our secure computer.

Crime Stoppers also pays up to \$1000 for information leading to an arrest. It also pays a minimum of \$500 for information leading to an arrest for crimes against tourist or our tourism/hospitality industry. Since 1989, tips to the local crime stoppers program have led to over 210 arrests, including 2 murder cases, numerous burglary & robbery case, \$200,000 in recovered property and over 2.4 Million in drugs taken off the street from tips provided by the



community. Crime Stoppers accepts tips on all crime, including environmental crimes (illegal dumping, waste oil, poaching etc), domestic violence, child abuse, robbery, burglary and other property crimes and of course il-

legal firearms, murder, illegal drug sales, human, weapon and drug trafficking. We want your information...not you name!

The annual NMI Crime Stopper Softball Tournament is the primary income source for its annual operations. Special thanks go to Congressman Vinny Sablan, IT&E, United Airlines and Island Training Solutions for their help in making this event possible.

For more information on the NMI Crime Stoppers program, call Jim Arenovski at 287-7037 or send email to delamgt@pticom.com

TOURNEY

From Page 28

water conditions on Day 1, as it did not turn a single catch last Saturday and was nowhere on the leaderboard one hour before Day 2 of the competition closed.

Meanwhile, in other categories, *My Lady Gora*, *Marlin Chaser*, *Sweet Candy*, and *San Juan I* were ahead at press time.

My Lady Gora's 51.20-lb yellow fin caught yesterday led the 50.95lb of *Don Pedro* and 50.30lb of *Fiona*. *Don Pedro* was ahead after Day 1,

while *Scallywag* (44lbs) and *Sweet Candy* (43.89lbs) were in second and third, respectively.

In the wahoo category, *Marlin Chaser's* 31.10lb put them ahead of *Luka Ben's* 28.10lbs and *Team Q's* 26.90lbs. *Sweet Candy* kept the lead in the mahi category as its 19.40lbs in Day 1 was way on top of *Flames of Love's* 3.45lbs and *Relax's* 2.85lbs. *San Juan II's* 24.50-lbs skipjack tuna caught yesterday slid *My Lady Gora* to second place (14.50lbs), while *Carmelita II's* 14.30lbs bumped of *St. Christopher* (11.25lbs) from third place.

CNMI

From Page 28

this year and will be assisted by Bernard Cabrera. Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. president A.J. Murig is the head of delegation.

Playing for the CNMI Senior All-Stars are Henry Agui, Kimo Angailen, Nathan Anson, John Richard Atalig, Ethan Babauta, Ace Evangelista, Donnie Fejeran, Tindin Deleon Guerrero, Jay Kalen, Aurel Mendiola, Nathan Nogis, Brandon Pua, Shakobe Rangamar, Virgil Secharmidal, Neldreyton Skerei, and Larson Sebatang. Majority of the members of the team were part of the champion squad last year. The Commonwealth

delegation left last Saturday in time for yesterday's opening ceremony.

The CNMI players will see action in the round-robin preliminaries for three straight days as they will take on Australia tomorrow in the first game and the host country on Wednesday in the second match. Lawrence Camacho's wards will take a break on Thursday before playing their final preliminary game against Indonesia on Friday.

The CNMI Senior All-Stars must finish in the Top 2 in the elimination round to return to the finals and move a step closer to earning another trip to the World Series, which will be held in Bangor, Maine from July 31 to August 6.

670 Sonics Attend Basketball Clinic in PH

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Pinoy Dreamers director Beaujing Acot, second left, former CNMI National Team member and now pro player Jericho Cruz, third left, join 670 Sonics coaches and officials after the cage team from Saipan attended the former's clinic last week at the San Lorenzo Village covered court in Makati, Philippines.



670 Sonics players and Pinoy Dreamers director Beaujing Acot, in yellow T-shirt, huddle at the completion of the basketball clinic.



Rain or Shine player and former CNMI National Team member Jericho Cruz, ninth left, poses with 670 Sonics players and officials after visiting the squad during its training session with Pinoy Dreamers director Beaujing Acot.



Sean Rabasto and his teammates perform dribbling drills.



Rain or Shine player and former CNMI National Team member Jericho Cruz gives pointers to 670 Sonics players.



Pinoy Dreamers director Beaujing Acot explains to 670 players how to provide a proper screen.



The 670 Sonics players' footwork are tested.



Djaymarch Ong practices his footwork.



670 Sonics head coach Jesse Tudela, right, takes footages of the team's drills.



**Serena wins
record-tying
22nd Grand
Slam title**

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

**McCann's RBI
double helps
Yanks nip
Indians**

PAGE 25



28 MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

'Pikaboo' stops foe in PXC 54



PACIFIC XTREME COMBAT PHOTO
Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez poses for a photo during a weigh-in for PXC 54 last Thursday at the Pacific Islands Club's amphitheater. Alvarez won his bantamweight bout against Emilio Urrutia last Friday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez is back to his winning ways after beating Tiger Muay Thai's Emilio Urrutia in their bantamweight bout in PXC 54 held last Friday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

Alvarez, who came into last weekend's event with back-to-back losses, won over Urrutia via submission (rear-naked second) at the 4:31 mark of the second round. With the victory, Alvarez improved his record to 12-4, while Urrutia dropped to a 7-4 slate and has yet to win in PXC as the Thailand-based MMA fighter also bowed to Ernie Braca in his PXC debut early this year.

"My conditioning was on point for this fight and it's what led me to victory. I was able to stuff all his takedowns and that got him frustrated and



tired. I took advantage and was able to grind him out and get him to slowly break," Alvarez told *Saipan Tribune* a day after getting his fifth win in PXC.

The Trench Tech bet went to San Diego, California for a fight camp before seeing action in PXC 54 and showed early that he was up to whatever Urrutia will throw at him, exchanging blows with his 29-year-old opponent.

"I was landing big shots from the beginning and he was landing nice straight punches

See 'PIKABOO' on Page 26

CNMI vs Guam in ASPAC Senior League first game

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Senior All-Stars will meet their neighbor Guam today to begin their title defense bid in the Senior League division of the 2016 Asia Pacific Regional Tournament.

The CNMI-Guam tussle will open the six-day competition in the World Series qualifier, while host Philippines

will take on Australia in the second match in Clark, Panganga.

The Commonwealth bet will be gunning for their third straight championship in the ASPAC. Last year, the team topped the typhoon-shortened World Series qualifier that Saipan hosted, while in 2014, the squad pulled off an 8-6 victory over



Guam in the finals, which incidentally was also played in Clark.

This year's CNMI Senior All-Star Team is led by manager Lawrence Camacho, who coached the squad that ruled last year's regionals. Gregorio Camacho is the selection's coach

See CNMI on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Senior All-Stars players and officials gather for a group photo at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport last weekend before heading to the Philippines for the World Series qualifier.

Padre De Familia leads SFA fishing tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Padre De Familia's 137.40-lb marlin was the single heaviest catch in the first day of the 32nd Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

The Calistro Reyes-captained boat was in the best position to top the weekend event as it remained in the lead as of 5pm yesterday. *Cabo Express*, which failed to turn in its catches that met the weight requirement last Saturday, showed up at the weigh station in Smiling Cove Marina yesterday and handed their 117.50-lb marlin to place second one hour before the competition concluded.

Rosemary, which also came up empty in the billfish category and instead turned in a 26.85-lb wahoo and 4.15-lb skipjack tuna on Day 1, had a 110.65-lb marlin on Day 2 for the field's third best pending the final results of the tournament. *K Fisher* also made up for its zero catch in the opening day with its 109-lb marlin yesterday.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A father and his daughter check *Padre De Familia's* 137.40-lb marlin caught last Saturday during the opening day of competition in the 32nd Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

With *Cabo Express*, *Rosemary*, and *K Fisher* making it to the leaderboard on Day 2, Day 1 second and third placers *Sea Hawk* and *Keilani Ko* were bumped off. *Sea Hawk* landed a 105.40-lb marlin last Saturday, while *Keilani Ko* turned in its 102.20lb catch an hour before the opening day of the tournament ended.

Day 1 was a bit slow for

the 65 boats that participated in this year's competition.

"A lot of boats headed north, but turned back because of the big waves," according to Saipan Fishermen's Association's Floyd Masga.

Last year's grand prize and total weight winner *Emmanuel* was among those affected by the uncoopera-

See TOURNEY on Page 26

